

# CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

# HowNiKan

People of the Fire

## Inside this issue

Learn about quality,  
affordable housing with a  
truly enjoyable lifestyle -  
Page 9



2007 CPN Election Code Pages 12-17

Potawatomi Language Page 18

National Guardsmen Honored Page 19



Chairman's Column Page 23

## Legislative filing, election dates set

# Constitution revision draws 83% approval

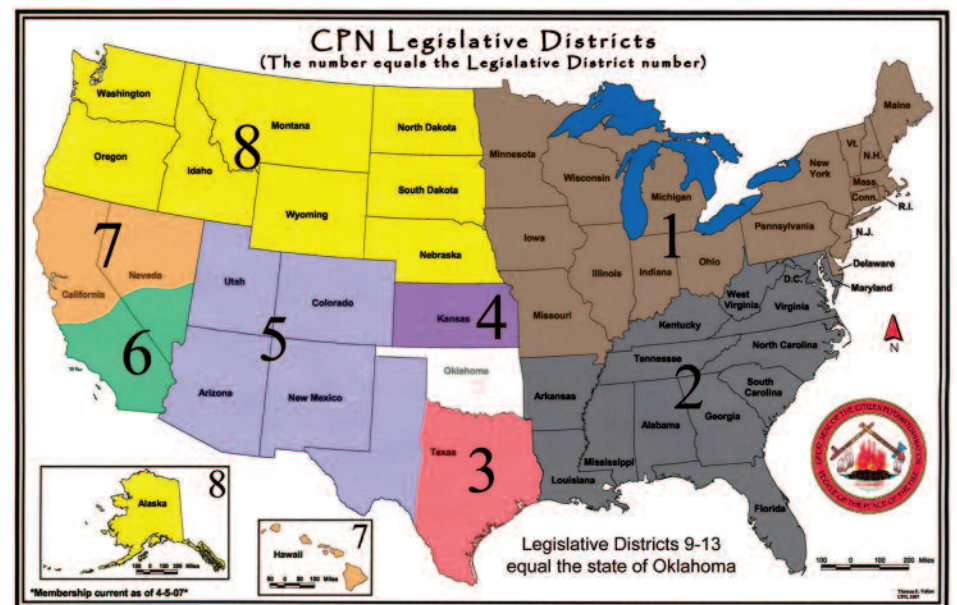
Citizen Potawatomi Nation officials and staff are implementing constitutional changes that were overwhelmingly approved in a Secretarial Election this summer. Results from the election, which ended on August 16, show 1,806 yes votes and 374 no votes, with 82.84% of voters backing the revision.

The proposal also met a second approval hurdle, having at least 30% of CPN members who registered for the election actually cast ballots. The 2,180 who voted represent 65.7% of the 3,318 who registered.

Implementation of the revisions was delayed as the Bureau of Indian Affairs decided election protests filed by three dissident CPN members - Diana Brasfield of Bartlesville, Oklahoma; Penny Bishop of Morrison, Colorado; and Sheila Hall of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

CPN Chairman John Barrett said, "Filing these protests was frivolous and shameful. It demonstrated contemptuous disregard for the will of the people. We are confident the protests will be rejected within a short time."

The Chairman's optimism was con-



*This map depicts the new CPN Legislative District boundaries. Voters and prospective candidates who live along district boundaries can call CPN offices or see the explanatory box on page 6 to learn their district of residence. Also on page 6, there is a larger version of this map.*

firmed when, in early October, BIA officials rejected the protests, ratifying the revision. In rejecting the protests, Carl Artman, Assistant Secretary of the Interior/Indian Affairs, told Brasfield, Bishop, and Hall, "You base your chal-

lenge on grounds that are not related to the Secretarial election...The CPN voters ratified the amended constitution with a large majority in support of the constitution as proposed. This decision is final for the See **CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION** on page 21



**Run-off Result:**  
**Bowden elected to**  
**Business**  
**Committee**  
*See story*  
*on Page 7*

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CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION



# WALKING ON

## Jacquelyne Marie Gager

Jacquelyne Marie Gager, 76, Topeka, died Monday, June 11, 2007 at St. Francis Hospital. She was born August 21, 1930 in Topeka, the daughter of Clyde and Peggy Schwartz. Mrs. Gager was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma.

She married Raymond J.J. Gager. He died in October, 1981.

Survivors include her children, Janel Gager of Leavenworth, Kansas, Joleen Whisneant of Woodville, Texas, Ray Gager Jr. of Maryland, George Gager of Topeka, Michelle Gager of Topeka, and Michael Gager of Topeka; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Gager's remains were cremated. A memorial service was held at 1:00 pm Thursday, June 14 at Oakland Church of the Nazarene. Inurnment was in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Chester, Texas, next to her husband.

## HOWNIKAN

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Newcomer Family Funeral Home is assisted the family. To leave a special message for the family online, visit [www.NewcomerFamily.com](http://www.NewcomerFamily.com).

## Elizabeth 'Betty' Rogers

Elizabeth 'Betty' Rogers, 86, of Andover, Kansas, a retired Boeing rivet distributor, died Monday, June 18, 2007. Services were held Monday, June 25, 2007.

Mrs. Rogers was preceded in death by her husband, James Jr., and son, Donald. Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Andrew and Marjorie Rogers of Andover; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established with St. Andrews Children and Youth Education Fund. Arrangements were with Smith Mortuary of Derby, Kansas.

## Chester Allan Cooper



Chester A. Cooper, 73, of Cicero, New York passed away on Friday, March 16, 2007 at his home. Born in Harveyville, Kansas, he was a supervisor with Jacquith Industries for many years. He served on the International Management Council and was president in 1981-82. He was also employed with TO State Auto in Cicero. He was a member of the Cicero United Methodist Church.

Cooper is survived by his wife, Donna (Jandreau) Cooper; a son, Chester Jr. and his wife Patricia; a daughter, Elaine Bell and her husband Gregg; two brothers, Loren Cooper and his wife Helen and

Thomas Cooper and his wife Mary Lou; two grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held on Monday, March 26, 2007 at 7 p.m. at New Comer Family Funeral Home, North Syracuse, New York. Friends were invited to visit with his family on Monday, prior to the service, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Contributions in Chester Cooper's name may be made to the Cicero United Methodist Church. Messages of sympathy may be left at [www.newcomerfamily.com](http://www.newcomerfamily.com).

## Edith (Darling) LaZelle



Edith Margurite (Darling) LaZelle of Viola, Idaho was born on October 31, 1918 at Palouse, Washington, the daughter of Franklin Seymour Darling and Elizabeth (Hamilton) Darling. She passed on on Friday, January 13, 2006 at Gritman Medical Center in Moscow, Idaho.

Edith married Delbert Wellington LaZelle on February 17, 1937, at Rosalia, Washington. They made their home near Potlatch, Idaho, where they farmed and raised cattle and sheep and their children.

Delbert LaZelle died of cancer in 1979. Edith moved to Potlatch, Idaho with a friend Glen, then later moved to Worley, Idaho, with a long-time friend, Kathleen. The -two of them spent a lot of time on the Coeur d'Alene Indian- reservation, at their casino. Later she moved back near the ranch on the river to be near her daughter Joyce and spent the remainder of her life being assisted by Joyce.

Mrs. LaZelle loved music. She inherited that love from her father, Frank, who

danced and played the fiddle. They passed that love along, as Edith LaZelle cared for her father at the home on the Palouse River.

Edith LaZelle was a hard-working, kind, and generous woman, who was rewarded with a gentle death.

Survivors include a son, Glenn LaZelle, of Kendrick, Idaho; three daughters, Judy Reisenauer and her husband Gerald of Moscow, Joyce Alsterlund, and Jo Minden and her husband Duane, all of Viola; 13 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, son-in-law Ronald Alsterlund, and a sister, Norma Hodge.

Her son, Glenn LaZelle, offers thanks to Mr. John Barrett and Mrs. Linda Capps, saying, "I was able to put her to rest in the Traditional way. She did not want a conventional funeral, but was given one. She was born into this world a Potawatomi, and was put to rest accordingly."

## Cateche Tatum Dike



A sweet angel, Cateche Tatum Dike, 18, returned to her Lord on Saturday, February 25, 2006 from injuries sustained in a car accident near Hearne, Texas. Services were held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 28, 2006 at Mobberly Baptist Church, in Longview, with the Pastor Chuck Jamison and the Rev. Paul Coleman officiating. Visitation was held the previous evening at Radar Funeral Home, Longview.

A funeral service was held on



Wednesday, March 1, 2006 in the Chapel of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home in Richmond, Texas. Burial followed in Greenlawn Cemetery.

Cateche lit up any room she ever entered with a glowing smile, a big wink, and lots of laughter. Her biggest gift in life, among many, was her ability to instantly bond with people and make them forget all their troubles. However, her 'people skills' were not her only gifts!

An accomplished singer, Cateche had performed professionally at Johnny High's in Arlington, Texas and had recently had fun auditioning for American Idol in Austin. She was excitedly planning her move to New York City in the fall of 2006, where she was to attend the New York Film Academy, majoring in acting. She was also gifted in dance and had a very creative eye for art. Cateche loved traveling with her mom, Yvonne Dike Swain, and spent hours singing in the car with her dad, Jimmy Dike, on weekend trips to Port Arthur, Texas.

Her friends describe her as caring and lots of fun. There was never any doubt when Cateche was 'in the house'! Everyone smiled.

Cateche was a senior at Longview High School, having also attended Grace Academy in Tyler for 2 years. She was a member of Student Council, DECA, and choir. She had recently been asked to help on the Senior Committee with the Prom at Longview High School. Cateche was a member of the Terpsichorean Club. At Grace she had been involved with Spanish Club, Worship Team, newspaper staff, and choir. She was also a cheerleader while at Grace.

She attended camp for 6 years at Pine Cove in Tyler and spent a summer at Camp Greystone in Tuxedo, North Carolina. Although an only child, Cateche created instant siblings among her close friends, always including them in any event in her life no matter how great or small. With Cateche, even a long weekend was a fun event! She had a wealth of extended family as well - aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents.

She was preceded in death by her beloved aunt, Debbie Reinhart. Survivors include her parents, Yvonne and Lee Swain of Longview and Jimmy and Julie Dike of Port Arthur; her maternal grandparents, Leon and Dora Salazar of Richmond and paternal grandparents, her 'Mimi', Wanda and Jim Perkins, and T.D. Dike all of Ft. Worth. Aunts and uncles include Diana Sherrill of Lake Jackson,

Homer and Mercedes Salazar of Richmond, and Roland and Joni Salazar of Rosharon, Texas.

Cateche had many cousin including, Heston, Mason, and Hunter Sherrill, who were like her brothers. Also surviving is her step-sister, Stephanie Butler.

Cateche will be missed beyond words, but there is comfort in knowing that her faith and Godly spirit assure her a place in God's loving arms. Many people who live to be 100 years old never have the full, rich life that Cateche was blessed to enjoy and share with all who knew and loved her.

Memorials may be made in honor of Cateche to Cateche Dike Performing Arts Scholarship Fund through East Texas Professional Credit Union, Longview, Texas.

### Amy Joyce Vidricksen

Amy Joyce Vidricksen, 60, Salina, Kansas died on Thursday July 27, 2006. Mrs. Vidricksen was born Amy Joyce Rhodd on September 8, 1945, in Winfield, Kansas.

She was a homemaker and an avid collector of pink depression glass and other antiques and a devoted volunteer of Hospice of Salina and Salina Regional Health Center.

She was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Indian Nation and very proud of her heritage.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert Hatton Rhodd and the former Amy Ruth Waymire, and two brothers, Max Rhodd and Monte Lee Burley.

Survivors include her husband, Fred, of Salina; two sons, Gene Nixon of Salina and Jeff Nixon and wife Barb of Olathe, Kansas; a daughter, Ruth Aim Morse and her fiancé, Jeff Gardner, of Salina; a step-daughter, Debbie Reinhardt, and her husband Bob of Newton; a stepson, Steve Vidricksen, and his fiancé, Lana, of Arkansas City, Kansas; a brother, Dewey Rhodd, and his wife Beverly of Wellington, Kansas; and seven grandchildren, Chelsea Morse, Jordan and Michaela Nixon, Jason, Sarah and Jacob Reinhardt, and Todd Vidricksen.

The funeral service was held at 10 a.m. on Monday, July 31, 2006 at Ryan Mortuary in Salina. Burial was in Gypsum Hill Cemetery. Visitation was from noon to 8 p.m. on Sunday, July 30 at the funeral home, where the family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Salina.

### Shiree Dawn Randell



Shiree Dawn Randell, 52, of Bethel Acres, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Tuesday, July 31, 2007.

She moved to Bethel Acres as a teenager and graduated from Bethel High School in 1973. She moved to Chickasha and earned her degree in psychology, working as a counselor. Her life focused around her children, grandchildren, and family.

Her hobbies were involved with helping others. She enjoyed fishing and her craft work. She was an organ donor and provided life to three people in our area. Her love, generosity, and unselfish spirit were an inspiration to all those who knew her. She always attended to the needs of her family and those less fortunate. Her life touched the lives of so many. Our hearts are broken because of our great loss, but we rejoice in knowing that she is in glory with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

She was a member of Liberty Baptist Church in Shawnee and was proud of her Citizen Potawatomi heritage.

Shiree was preceded in death by her biological father, Donald Ray Bowers, who passed away when she was a year old.

She is survived by her mother and father, Glenn and Beverly Hughes; three daughters and one son-in-law, Jennifer Randell, Bree Dunham, and Jerica and Derick Southwell; and two grandparents, Viola Jines of Tecumseh and Bernice Bowers of Oklahoma City. She had two grandsons, Logan and Konner Southwell.

Also surviving are two sisters and one brother-in-law, Sallee and John Caro and Sheila Hughes of Shawnee; one niece, Cati Caro; one nephew, Matthew Lamey; and many other friends and family.

A funeral service was held at 10 a.m. on

Saturday, August 4 at Cooper Funeral Chapel in Tecumseh, with the Rev. Bill Matthews and Phil Thompson officiating. Burial was at Resthaven Memory Gardens in Oklahoma City.

To share memories or to sign the guest book on-line, go to [www.cooperfuneral.com](http://www.cooperfuneral.com).

### James Dee "J.D." Holt



James Dee "J.D." Holt, 89, of Green Valley, Arizona walked on on August 14, 2007. He was born on September 16, 1917, in Maud, Oklahoma, the son of Florence May Ogee Holt and Newton DeKalb Holt. He was the grandson of Robert A. Ogee and Emily Antoinette Beaubien. His Potawatomi name was Ogichadagiwé, which means 'Warrior Returning Home'.

J.D. was a retired civil engineer. He was the resident engineer on several projects in Oklahoma for W.R. Holway Co., including the Markham Ferry Project, Robert S. Kerr Dam, Salina Pumpback, GRDA coal-fired plant, Tulsa water treatment plant, and low-water dam facilities on the Arkansas River. J.D. was resident engineer on the nationally recognized Merrimac River hydroelectric project in Massachusetts.

J.D. retired from the Army Reserves as a Lt. Col. He served during WWII in the Persian Gulf Command with the 352nd Corps of Engineers where his units built docks in Iran to receive Victory ships. He served in the China-Burma-India theater, constructing the Ledo and Burma Roads.

J.D. and his wife, Imogene, spent many years documenting the Ogee and Beaubien family genealogies. Their findings were put into book form and are used by many tribal members to research their family history. He also enjoyed traveling, golf, jewelry-making, and watching the OU Sooners.

see *WALKING ON* on page 11



# Potawatomi Cornerstone: The Removals, Part One, the Beginning

by Charles Clark Director Tribal Rolls

Ask a Citizen Potawatomi about our ancestors' removal from the Great Lakes area, and their first thought will be that of the Trail of Death - understandably so. The Trail of Death is the keystone from which the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is built; it is our direct legacy and most spoken about tragedy.

However, this event is just one of many such events that happened over a small window of time. There were other removals involving our direct Potawatomi ancestors. Some of these removals were forced, as well. Others involved small and sometimes scattered parties that made the journey on their own. And not all of them ended in Kansas, at least not in the beginning. Nevertheless, these events played just as important a role in making our great Citizen Potawatomi Nation what it now is.

The removals began in 1835. By 1840, most Potawatomis were cleared out of the northern Indiana/southern Wisconsin region. Many fled to Canada during this time, crossing the St. Clair River near Detroit or moving along the eastern shoreline of Lake Michigan. Those who made this journey would eventually find sanctuary along the northern shores of the Great Lakes and begin life anew. The Potawatomis who resisted the removals and stayed became a scattered people, roaming about their homeland as refugees, surviving sometimes only by their wits.

Over the next decade, Potawatomis who found life undesirable in Kansas and Iowa returned to their homeland. Most would settle in Wisconsin, seeking help from the Menominees and Winnebagos, only to end up as refugees like their counterparts who chose to stay early on.

Eventually, many of them were rounded up again and taken back to Kansas and Iowa. Those who escaped either fled to Canada or hid in the Green Bay area.

In 1848, the U.S. Government gave some of these Potawatomi refugees a small piece of land in Michigan. Others were forced to wait until 1884 to be given land under the Indian Homestead Act.

In the early 1820s a growing number of government officials began to favor removal rather than assimilation into white society as a way to deal with the original inhabitants. Though the process of assimilation



*English-born artist George Winter painted this scene of a council between Potawatomi leaders and U.S. government representatives in July 1837. The purpose of the meeting was to iron out details for the impending removal of the Potawatomis from northern Indiana. The council was held about 20 miles from Logansport, Indiana.*

continued with the support of the religious community, officials felt that the Indians were not benefiting from white indoctrination and were acquiring harmful vices in its place. That led to the conclusion that Indians' removal from white influences, specifically whiskey, would in fact facilitate the assimilation process.

It was a matter, they believed, of placing Indians under quarantine on reservations west of the Mississippi. In the process, white settlement would be allowed to continue apace, unhindered by the Indian population.

One of the earliest proponents of removal was Isaac McCoy, a Baptist Missionary who oversaw the Carey Indian Mission near Niles, Michigan. Concerned by the widespread abuse of alcohol, McCoy became a well-known removal-as-quarantine advocate. He pushed for the consolidation of various Indian Nations by relocating them in that portion of the Unorganized Territory that would become Kansas.

McCoy's vision was simple: Drive the Indians away from the influence of "ardent spirits" and they will be host to the Holy Spirit. In 1828, McCoy's dream came a bit closer to being realized. Appointed by

local politicians, McCoy was charged with the task of taking a small party of six men, three Potawatomis and three Ottawas, to explore the area that was selected as a possible site for their new homeland.

The Potawatomis were reluctant but went on the expedition. Their attitudes held firm throughout the trip; they returned more disgusted than when they left. The Potawatomis were unimpressed by the area. Their explorations only encouraged them to be more rigid with the U.S. Government. This attitude did little to advance their situation, however.

By an Act of Congress on May 28, 1830, President Andrew Jackson's Indian policy was implemented. It called for the "voluntary removal" of Indian tribes in the east to tracts of land set aside for permanent occupancy west of the Mississippi River in the Unorganized Territory. Indians whose homeland was in the region north of the Ohio River would be relocated on reservations in what became the Kansas and Nebraska Territories. Those who lived south of the river were assigned tracts of land in the area that would become Indian Territory and, later, Oklahoma.

Some Tribes were already in the process

of being relocated to the Kansas and Nebraska area before the congressional action of 1830. All told, 27 tribes were relocated to the Kansas area. The relocation process took approximately 16 years with some residuals to make it complete. However, a short time later, pressure from white expansionism would force further removals from the Kansas Territory south into Indian Territory.

Tribes living in the Ohio region were first on the list to be relocated. They were the Delaware, Wyandot, Chippewa, and Shawnee tribes. Plans for their removal began in 1829. But it wasn't until 1833 that the Treaty of Chicago made the removal of the Potawatomis official. Two tracts of land had already been assigned as their permanent home - one in Council Bluffs, Iowa Territory and the Platte Purchase in the western Iowa Territory, along the Missouri River just opposite Omaha.

The process of removal of the Potawatomis was set to begin in April 1833. Five months before the treaty of Chicago was signed, Abel C. Pepper, a Democratic politician was commissioned by the War Department to lead the first set of Potawatomis. Pepper arrived at the removal camp in Logansport, Indiana on April 11. He found several hundred Potawatomis and Kickapoos waiting to leave. However, short on supplies and funds, he sent the Indians back home and delayed the migration until the first of June.

When the Potawatomis and Kickapoos returned, the party was still not ready to go; Pepper was still waiting for the paymaster, who was still at sea. As a result, Pepper was forced to contend with and feed a growing number of Indians. By June 20, he had no choice but to begin the trek, despite the lack of funds needed for such an expedition.

The move was not very far along when word came back to Pepper's party that St. Louis was suffering from a cholera outbreak. Pepper rode ahead to investigate the situation. When he came back with bilious fever, the Indians became frightened and returned to their homes.

During this time, another planned migration was on standby at Logansport. Many left out of frustration. Others had heard of another treaty being signed in



Chicago, and left the removal camp to attend.

When Lt. William R. Montgomery, the paymaster, arrived at Logansport on July 20, the number of Indians waiting on removal had dwindled to 145.

Lewis Sands, the leader of this migration, was mightily upset over Montgomery's delay. The two quarreled for almost a week before the trip was finally scheduled to begin. However, just before the party was to move out, a request for wagons by the Potawatomi was cruelly scoffed off by Montgomery. Enraged, 78 Indians walked away from the removal, leaving 67 to be escorted to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

This disastrous beginning delayed further removals until 1835, when Billy Caldwell [Sauganash], a Potawatomi Chief, set off to lead about 700 Potawatomi to the Platte Purchase Reserve.

Caldwell and a small party of about 40 Potawatomi explored the area along Little Sioux River in Iowa in October 1834, a year before the migration, only to find the site unacceptable. There were no trees and the site was too close to the Sioux.

They pressed southward to the Platte Purchase Reserve and found that area more to their liking. Coincidentally, Caldwell and his party encountered the Potawatomi from the first unsuccessful migration led by Montgomery and Sands in 1833. Those Potawatomi had determined that Kansas was undesirable and migrated to the Platte Purchase Reserve.

Caldwell's return to Chicago, to announce a change in plans, did not sit well with the Indian agents. They had spent the greater part of the year preparing for the removal and now, Caldwell wanted to move the Indians further south. Additionally, he was saying that, if he could not do so, he would appeal to President Andrew Jackson. Such an appeal would certainly delay the move by several months.

To prevent any delays, Captain John Russell convinced Caldwell that, if he were to send the letter during the migration, the president would be more susceptible to his pleas. Capt. Russell went so far as to promise Caldwell that he would move the Potawatomi and Kickapoos to the



*George Winter sketched this scene as the Rt. Rev. Brute, Bishop of Vincennes, Indiana, addressed the Potawatomi on the second day of their immigration from Indiana to Kansas, on September 16, 1838.*

Platte Purchase and allow them to remain there until the president responded to the request. Caldwell agreed. In September 1835, he and Capt. Russell led the first major migration of Potawatomi to the new reserve.

When they reached the Mississippi River, Caldwell, Capt. Russell, and about 250 Potawatomi split from the main group moving south to the Platte Purchase. The remaining group turned north along the river and camped along the banks of Skunk River for the winter.

When Caldwell and his entourage reached the Platte Purchase, council was made and six delegates were chosen to go to Washington to petition the government to allow them to remain on the reserve for 20 years. Elbert Herring, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, met with the delegation but refused the offer. Instead, he allowed them to stay on the Platte Reserve until they found a more suitable location near Council Bluffs.

The delegation reluctantly agreed to the offer, but by this time, white settlers were

already moving into the area, knowing that it would soon be annexed into the Missouri Territory. Tensions mounted between the Potawatomi and the whites. In February 1836, troops from Ft. Leavenworth pushed the white settlers out of the area. This angered local politicians, and they agitated to expedite the annexation.

Several hundred Indians who spent the winter at Skunk River rejoined Caldwell's and Russell's group in early summer. The remainder would stay in Iowa.

At this time, several more removals were gearing up: A group numbering close to 300 under the leadership of Padekoshek was waiting in northern Illinois; a large group of 850 Potawatomi from southern Wisconsin under the leadership of Big Foot; 750 from the Fox River Valley in Illinois under the military command of Gholson Kercheval; and other parties under the Indian leadership of Waubensee and Shabbona.

The emigration party led by Gholson Kercheval began September 20, 1836, from the removal camp located along the Des Plaines River in Northeast Illinois. One month later, on October 24, Kercheval's party was met by Potawatomi led by Waubensee and Shabbona in eastern Missouri. The two groups merged and trekked south to the Platte Purchase where they were met by

Caldwell's party in mid-September. The number of Potawatomi inhabitants on the Platte Purchase now numbered close to 1700.

The tension between Missourians and Potawatomi grew as the Indian population increased. White settlers were more aggressively pushing to oust the Indian population as Gov. Daniel Duncan worked to speed up the annexation process.

Meanwhile, Indian agents were trying to induce the Potawatomi into relocating to Iowa, near Council Bluffs, the original reserve. But, as in the past, many Potawatomi found the area to their liking, only more so now because the despised Plains Indians, the Sioux, lived in the region.

The Kansas reserve was still very much an option. More so with Isaac McCoy, who believed that despite the Potawatomi contempt for the area, the Indians would be better off there. However, at this time, only a few Potawatomi were willing to make it their home.

As we will see, Kansas would quickly become the primary reserve for the Potawatomi people and a large number of other tribes, as Iowa was given over for white settlement.

The Platte Purchase was annexed March 28, 1837. The U.S. Government wanted the Indians out of Missouri as quickly as possible to prevent any further escalation of hostilities between the Indians and the white settlers who were now pouring into the area.

Indian agents set up a new sub-agency at Council Bluffs, Iowa in April to lure the Potawatomi to the area. Some were willing to move to Iowa, and a few were willing to go to Kansas. But Caldwell and others stood defiant.

It is hypothesized that Caldwell was holding out for a better deal. He had learned through negotiations that delay often provided him with leverage. However, the situation at the Platte Reserve was coming to a head, and Caldwell's intentions and negotiations were complicating a serious situation.

The Indians on the Platte Purchase had been fed by the government from the very beginning. Because the Platte was a temporary fix for the relocation problem, the government prevented the Indians from hunting and planting crops. This was to prevent them from becoming too settled.

Because of Caldwell's defiance, all Potawatomi faced starvation when Federal officials abruptly cut off their food see *POTAWATOMI CORNERSTONE* on page 19





## Remembering Leona Mae Bazhaw Agee

Long, long ago...and yet not so long ago, the Great Spirit looked down on his creation and thought it needed another miracle. The Creator brought forth one of his most beautiful creations on June 29, 1931. Her name was Leona Mae Bazhaw.

Lee has walked to the other side. She has crossed over to the Spirit world to walk with Beatrice, Little Robert, Mom, Dad, Jimmy Lee, Chuck, Mary, and James. Walking on is a Native American term for why we are gathered here today. To celebrate Lee's life and the gifts she gave to all those she met.

Lee would want me to tell you that she was a devoted and loving wife to Les, a wonderful mother to Jimmy and Jenny, and a spoiling grandmother to Eric and Kharma. All the nieces and nephews called her Aunt Lee, but I think a lot of them really meant "Mama Lee". And my goodness, all those

Lee is very proud that she was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Now that she can speak her native language she would say, “Bousho Nikon, ne ja a-kedyn Lee, Bod-wadmi ndaw. - Hello, my friends, my name is Lee and I am Potawatomi.”

Lee is proud of her heritage and she is *See LEONA AGEE on page 23*

Long, long ago...and yet not so long ago, proud of her family. These few moments we share cannot begin to tell you about Lee. Oh, I could recite the obligatory things about Lee, but that's not me and that's not the Lee I know. Lee was a graceful "Tomboy", a simple and complicated lady. Lee would want me to tell you that she was a devoted and loving wife to Les, a wonderful mother to Jimmy and Jenny, and a spoiling grandmother to Eric and Kharmia. All the nieces and nephews called her Aunt Lee, but I think a lot of them really meant "Mama Lee". And my goodness, all those brothers and sisters, twelve of us in all, who shared those early years. The stories we have told. I remember the "Toss me a biscuit" story where...well, I better not get started or we might be here all day.

Lee is very proud that she was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Now that she can speak her native language she would say, "Bousho Nicon, ne ja a-kedyn Lee, Bod-wadmi ndaw. - Hello, my friends,

**Legislative District #1** - All states north of Arkansas, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Maryland and east of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas;

**Legislative District #2** - All states south of Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, including Washington D.C., and east of Oklahoma and Texas;

**Legislative District #3** - All counties in Texas east of Childress, Cottle, King, Stonewall, Fisher, Nolan, Coke, Tom Green, Schleicher, Sutton, and Val Verde counties;

**Legislative District #4** - Kansas;

**Legislative District #5** - The states of Utah, Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico, all counties in Texas west of Hardeman, Foard, Knox, Haskell, Jones, Taylor, Runnels, Concho, Menard, Kimble, Edwards, and Kinney counties, and west of Oklahoma;

**Legislative District #6** - All counties in California south of Monterey, Kings, Fresno, and Mono counties and all counties in Nevada south of Mineral, Lander, Eureka, and White Pine counties;

**Legislative District #7** - All counties in California north of San Luis Obispo, Kern, Tulare, and Inyo counties and all counties in Nevada north of Esmeralda, Nye, and Lincoln counties, plus the state of Hawaii.

**Legislative District #8** - The states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Alaska;

my name is Lee and I am Potawatomi.” Lee was a self taught artist. A naturalist,

Lee is proud of her heritage and she is *See LEONA AGEE on page 23*

## Legislative District Boundaries

**Legislative District #1** - All states north of Arkansas, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Maryland and east of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas;

**Legislative District #2** - All states south of Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, including Washington D.C., and east of Oklahoma and Texas;

**Legislative District #3** - All counties in Texas east of Childress, Cottle, King, Stonewall, Fisher, Nolan, Coke, Tom Green, Schleicher, Sutton, and Val Verde counties;

**Legislative District #4 - Kansas;**

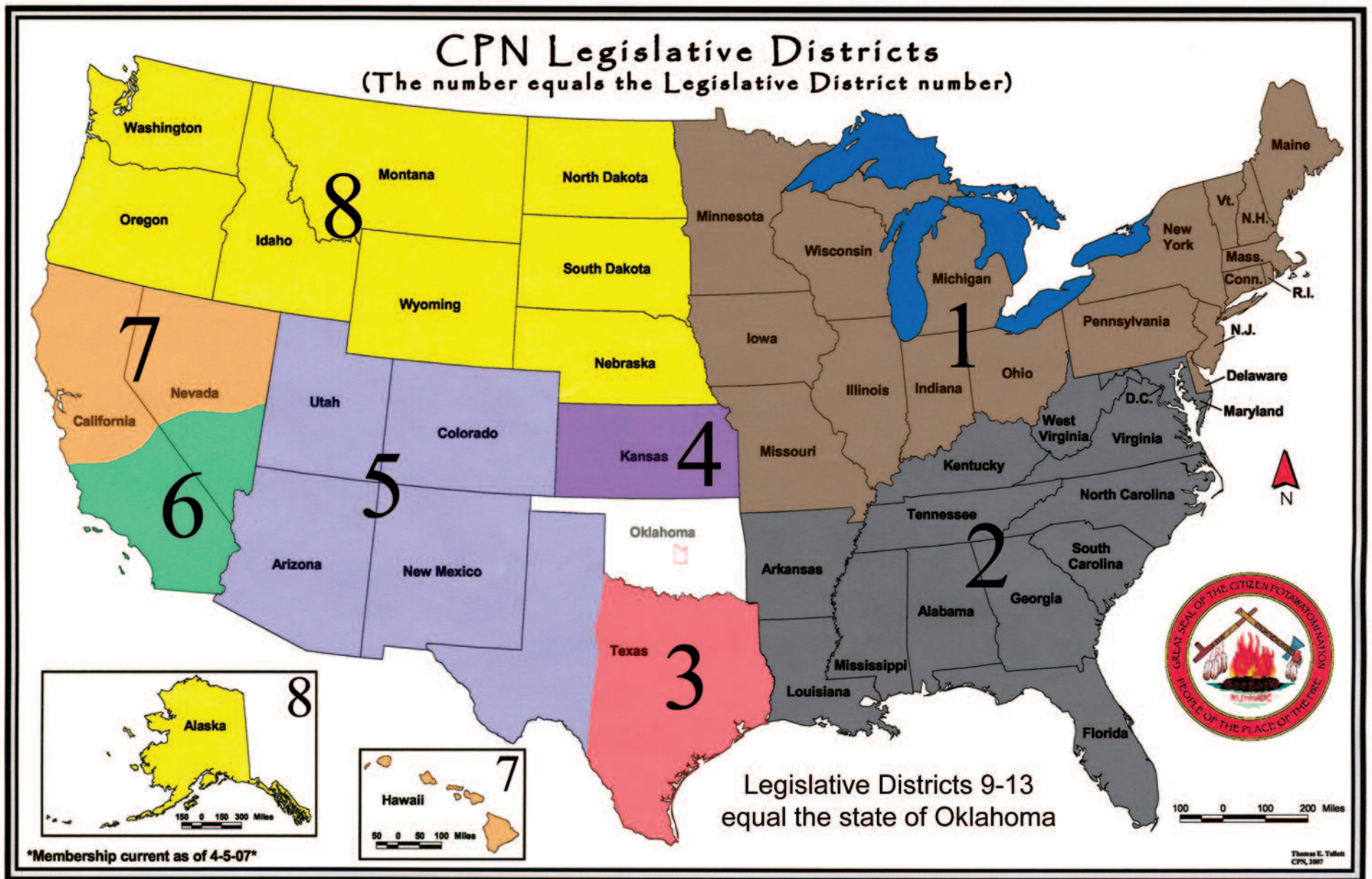
**Legislative District #5** - The states of Utah, Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico, all counties in Texas west of Hardeman, Foard, Knox, Haskell, Jones, Taylor, Runnals, Concho, Menard, Kimble, Edwards, and Kinney counties, and west of Oklahoma;

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**Legislative District #8** - The states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Alaska;

### Legislative Districts #9, #10, and #11 - Oklahoma.





## Bowden chosen to CPN Business Committee

Bobbie Bowden, a Citizen Potawatomi Nation member who lives in Choctaw, Oklahoma, has won overwhelming election to the Nation's Business Committee. Bowden is Vice President of Capitol Abstract & Title Company and Branch Manager of the Midwest City location for 11 years. She defeated incumbent Jimmy Snow of Lexington by a final vote count of 886 to 437; that is 66.97% of the votes, in what was a run-off. Bowden and Snow were the top two vote-getters in the general election held in late June.

Bowden tallied 862 absentee votes and 23 in in-person balloting at the CPN tribal courtroom on Saturday, August 25. Snow had 403 absentee votes and 34 walk-in votes.

Bowden was immediately sworn in as a member of the Nation's five-member law-making body. If the will of the Nation's voters, as expressed in a constitutional revision election that ended on August 16, is followed, Bowden's position will morph into one as one of 16 legislators in a new Citizen Potawatomi legislature.

John Barrett, CPN Chairman said of Bowden, "Bobbie graduated from Choctaw High School in Choctaw, Oklahoma and attended the University of Oklahoma and Rose State University in Oklahoma City. She is professional, dedicated, and capable. Bobbie Bowden will serve the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with hard work and intelligent decisions."

In the constitutional revision election,



*New Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee member Bobbie Bowden of Choctaw, Oklahoma is sworn in a few minutes after the Nation's Election Committee released results of a run-off election. Chairman John Barrett administers the oath while Vice Chairman Linda Capps holds the Bible.*

CPN members cast 1,806 yes votes and 374 no votes, approving extensive revision of the constitution with 82.84% approval. However, three dissident members of the Nation have filed protests of that election, delaying implementation of the changes. The BIA conducted the election. Its Anadarko area office has referred the election protests to Washington, D.C.

The constitution changes will extend more control of the legislative and budget-writing authority of their tribe to members who live outside Oklahoma. Of the Nation's approximately 26,600 members, some 16 live outside the Sooner State.

The change will also be the next-to-final step in setting up a true three-branch tribal government for the Citizen Potawatomis. Currently, the Chairman Vice Chairman, and Secretary-Treasurer perform both legislative and executive functions.

## Suzanne Genova receives veterinary degree

Suzanne Genova, DVM, of Pueblo, Colorado was one of 67 students who received the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree during convocation and hooding exercises at Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine on Saturday, May 5, 2007.

Dr. Genova is the daughter of Dominick and Estella Genova of Pueblo. She is a graduate of Pueblo County High School in Pueblo and received her B.S. degree in Animal Science from Oklahoma State. During her time at the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM), she has been active in AABP, SCAM, AAEP, and OTS. After graduation she plans to complete an internship at the OSU University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences in Food Animal Medicine and Surgery.

Dr. Michel Lorenz, Dean of the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine served as master of ceremonies. Dr. Sandra Morgan, Associate Professor, Physiological Sciences, was chosen by the Class of 2007 to deliver



*Dr. Suzanne Genova, DVM*

the class charge. Academic hoods were placed by Drs. Jean d'Offay and Mark Rochat. Dr. d'Offay is an Associate Professor in the Pathobiology Department and Dr. Rochat is the Chief of Small Animal Surgery at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Dr. Charles Eisenhour, President of the Oklahoma Veterinary Medical Association, administered the Veterinarians Oath.

## Computer store owner lives by tribal heritage and values

*by Jamie Gonzales, Auburn, California Journal Staff Writer*

Entering Sundance Computers in Auburn, California, beyond the computer hardware and cables, hang about a dozen drawings and American Indian dreamcatchers. Over the front window is a large American flag with an American Indian imprinted on it. Shop owner Thom Finks is not just an admirer of American Indian heritage and art. He is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, on his mother's side, and its Northern California Regional Director.

The Potawatomi tribe is originally from the Michigan area since the 1600s, according to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Web site.

In the 1830s, part of the tribe was forced to move from Indiana to Kansas after siding with the British in the War of 1812, according to the Native Languages Web site. In the 1870s, the tribe sold its Kansas property to buy more in Indian Territory or what is known today as Oklahoma. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the Potawatomi has about 26,000 people.

Not satisfied with just being associated by name to the tribe, Finks tries to incorporate the nature and beliefs of the Potawatomi into his business. "This community allows so much livelihood (for business owners), that I try to give back through honesty and professionalism," Finks said. "As my grandmother said, 'You come to this place with nothing, you leave with nothing.'"

By treating his customers with respect, his business has remained on the same corner of Elm Avenue and Lincoln Way for 12 years. In June, Auburn Journal readers voted his store "Best Computer Business" for 2007. "I'm very pleased and somewhat surprised," he said. "Auburn has been really good to me and my family."

Customers enjoy being able to speak one-on-one with Finks and his technicians. "Thom was very friendly to talk to," said George Lasater of Auburn. "I can say anything and he responds with a calm tone of voice and very confident."

The former automotive worker decided to switch to computers in the late 1970s when he decided working on cars was "no longer fun" and when computers were becoming more available to consumers. Finks also integrates the tribal beliefs into helping the seniors in Auburn. He will go to Auburn Ravine Terrace and fix the computers so the elderly can have contact with their families and the outside world. "Our two biggest assets are our elders and our children," Finks said. "It's our responsibility to take care and nurture both of them."

Another way Finks tries to help the younger generation is by education. In full handmade Potawatomi regalia, he will go to the local elementary schools to educate schoolchildren about American Indians. "I want to show the kids that it's not a 'dog and horse act,' that this is a tribe to be respected, like all other tribes and ethnicities," he said.

Finks and his brother Jeremy, a Potawatomi tribal preservation officer, are currently working to educate the tribal youth in learning the native language. "We want our youth to know their heritage and to understand where they come from and who they are," Finks said. "We don't want them to say that it was not available to them."

In most aspects of his life he carries on the beliefs of his family. In February 2005, one of his brothers died and later that August, his mother died. As he and his brother, Jeremy, spread her ashes over the Pacific Ocean, Finks took his pocketknife out and cut off his hair, which was once almost down to his waist. "For one year, there was no dancing, festivities nor speaking of the departed," Finks explained of Potawatomi custom after a relative dies.

Although living with his wife more than 1,500 miles away from the Potawatomi tribal center, Finks said he will one day live with the tribe. "It's difficult to be so far away from the tribe, relatives and friends," he said. "I'm very happy here. Eventually I will be (in Shawnee, Oklahoma) when I finish my work here."

*The Journal's Jamie Gonzales can be reached at [jamiieg@goldcountrymedia.com](mailto:jamiieg@goldcountrymedia.com), or post a comment at [auburnjournal.com](http://auburnjournal.com).*



*Thom Finks, owner of Sundance Computers in Auburn, is an active member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Photo by Jamie Gonzales/ Auburn Journal*





## Cultural Heritage Center Happenings

### Collections Corner

#### ABRAM B. BURNETT'S CANE ON DISPLAY AT THE CHC

Abram B. Burnett (1811-1870) was a chief and imposing figure among the Potawatomi. He was known as an intelligent man, as well as a successful farmer, cattlemen, and horse trader. He was also an important mediator among the Potawatomi. In 1837, he made the forced migration, known to the Potawatomi as the Trail of Death, from Indiana to Kansas. During the migration he served as an escort to Father Benjamin Petit, a priest to the Potawatomi.

Born in 1811 on the north side of the Tippecanoe

River near Muncie, Indiana, Mr. Burnett was a full-blood Potawatomi who was the son of Shau-Uque-Be and Cone-Zo-Quah, who, herself, was the daughter of Chief Chebaas. Burnett was a large man, reportedly weighing nearly 450 lbs. He often



Chief Abram Burnett

# Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center and FireLake Gifts

wore a coat, trousers, and top hat and carried an elaborate silver-topped cane. Mr. Burnett settled in the Topeka area around 1848 and is also buried there.

The cane is made of two pieces, the bottom part of the cane itself which is 32 inches long, and the second piece, which is a 12 inch dirk that slides into the top part of the cane. There is speculation as to whether Mr. Burnett actually used the dirk for protection.

Mr. Burnett's cane has been on loan to the Cultural Heritage Center since October 20, 2006 from the Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka. Abram Burnett's Cane was donated to the Kansas State Historical Society by Lee Burnett in 1952. Lee Burnett was a resident of the Shawnee area.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center would like to announce to tribal members and the public, that we have Abram Burnett's Cane on display in the museum until July 1, 2008.

Abram Burnett's cane can be viewed Tuesdays through Fridays, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. These are the normal CPN CHC museum operating hours.

### CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER SEEKS INFORMATION ON ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

The Cultural Heritage Center is asking for the names and military mailing addresses of all CPN tribal members, men and women, currently serving on active duty. The CHC veterans' database currently has as few as 10 individuals who are known to be serving in Iraq or elsewhere. We need your assistance in obtaining this information so we can acknowledge these individuals who are actively serving our country. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Please forward the information to: Stacy S. Pero, CPN Cultural Heritage Center, 1899 S. Gordon Cooper Drive,

Shawnee, OK 74801 or email to [SPero@potawatomi.org](mailto:SPero@potawatomi.org).

### FROM THE DESK OF THE CHC DIRECTOR

I thought I would start a column on our page that provides an update of the activities that have occurred in the Center as well as what we are going to be working on in the near future.

**2007 Family Reunion Festival** We estimate that more than 3,500 visitors came to CHC at least once during the Festival weekend; that does not count those members who came multiple times. Sales in the Firelake Gift Shop were very good over the course of the three days.

Seventeen family interviews were conducted, and we owe a special thanks to Bob Trousdale and Leslie Deer for their able assistance with the interviews. These interviews will be added to the Family Archives. Selected portions of them will be incorporated into future Family DVD presentations. For the Festival, we released Family DVDs of the nine Honored Families for 2007, bringing the total number released to 26.

Another highlight of the CHC activities during the Festival was the opening of the restored Bourbonnais Cabin, which is now immediately adjacent to the CHC. Through the cooperation of the Santa Fe Depot Museum in Shawnee, we were fortunate to be able to display Mary Bourbonnais' wedding dress in the cabin for the three days of the Festival. The wedding dress, which is well over 100 years old, is made of beaded deerskin.

**Other Recent Activities** In early August, we joined the CPN Veterans Organization and other local Veteran Groups in hosting a reception for the local Oklahoma National Guard unit. More than 120 National Guard members were able to attend the reception along with several of their spouses. The reception honored those National Guard members who have recently returned from a one-year deployment to Afghanistan as well as those who are preparing to be deployed for their 12-

*see CHC HAPPENINGS on page 10*

# Preserving Potawatomi Heritage



## Jury convicts Snow on four embezzlement counts

Following convictions on four of six charges filed against him, former Citizen Potawatomi Nation concrete batch plant director Coleman Lamoiné Snow will spend a year in Pottawatomie County jail and make restitution of \$8,428.57.

According to Citizen Potawatomi Nation District Court papers, Snow, who is a CPN member, was charged with six counts of embezzlement from the Nation. One alleged that Snow had batch plant employees fill his personal vehicle with gasoline paid for by the tribe - a total of more than \$5,600 worth, all told.

A second allegation was that, on January 5, 2006, Snow took home a 40-foot storage container purchased for batch plant use with tribal funds. He kept the storage container at his home until November 1, 2006, making personal use of the container without permission from tribal officials to do so. The storage container was not returned to the Nation's possession and use until it was discovered by CPN law enforcement officers.

Additionally, according to this count, Snow had a tribal employee deliver the storage container to Snow's home while on the clock and being paid by the tribe.

The illegal activities in a third count occurred in November and December 2005, according to court documents.

Prosecutor Hall charged Snow with having tribal employees, while on the clock and using tribal-purchased materials, construct a trailer for him. It was, according to court papers, "best (described) as a motorcycle trailer for the defendant's personal use."

Materials used to build the trailer were purchased from Shawnee Iron Company on June 1, 2005, having been purchased by the tribe for extension of a hopper at the concrete batch plant. As an added touch, the court papers indicate, Snow had the tribal employee working on the trailer weld Snow's name in the trailer.

A fourth charge claimed that, between April 1 and May 31, 2006, Snow used materials purchased by the tribe to have a tune-up performed on his personal vehicle. Further, prosecutor David Hall alleged, Snow used tribal employees who were on the clock and being paid by the tribe to perform the work on his truck.

The tribally-purchased products installed on Snow's truck included, but were not limited to, two fuel pumps, spark plug wires, a condenser, a distributor cap, distributor diodes, and an electrical coil.

At the conclusion of a two-day trial, a CPN District Court jury convicted Snow on four counts - embezzlement of the gasoline, illicit use of the storage container, unauthorized use of the motorcycle trailer,

and embezzlement of the motor vehicle parts and installation labor to overhaul his personal vehicle.

Count five had Snow using \$236.46 from batch plant petty cash to buy boots that he described in a petty chase reimbursement document as "work boots." "These boots were black python snake skin boots...purchased for personal use," said the court papers.

The breakdown of Snow's court-ordered restitution is: \$5,636.74 for the stolen gasoline; \$2,000.00 for personal use of the 40-foot storage container for five months; \$320.00 to replace the steel used to construct the 10-foot motorcycle trailer; and \$200.00 for the parts purchased for the tune-up on Snow's truck.

The first five counts were filed in CPN Court on November 7, 2006. In an amended criminal complaint filed on July 26, 2007, prosecutor Hall added a sixth count of embezzlement. It charged that, between January 1 and November 1, 2006 Snow "appropriated property, described as two casino gaming chairs, to his own personal use without the permission of the Tribe and with the intent to deprive the Tribe of the property permanently."

Jurors acquitted Snow on two counts - embezzlement of the boots and chairs.

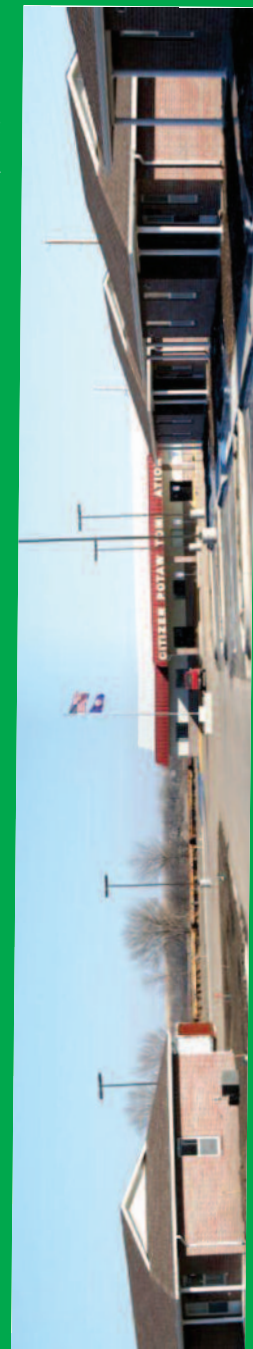
Snow is serving his sentence in the Pottawatomie County jail. Having no detention facility of its own, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation contracts with the county government for space to house its jail inmates.

These beautiful units are fully equipped: Washers & Dryers, Refrigerator, Kitchen Range, Dishwasher, Garbage Disposal, Storage Unit

It's a Lifestyle - It's Affordable Housing

You WILL enjoy Rossville's quiet, All-American style. And, you'll have everything you need just a short walk or a pleasant 17-mile drive (to Topeka) away. The CPN is offering totally new two-bed, one-bath duplex units for Citizen Potawatomi elders.

MAXIMUM MONTHLY RENT IS ONLY \$250.



### The CPN Office of Environmental Health Water & Septic System Assistance Program

Water and sewer system installation for Native Americans

Call the OEH for information or assistance

Telephone number 405-878-4672

Fax number 405-878-4678

Requirements....

1. CDIB card indicating affiliation with a federally recognized tribe
2. Copy of a Warranty Deed
3. A Photo ID
4. Residence in Pottawatomie, Cleveland, Lincoln, Oklahoma, or Logan county

### FireLake Designs

Announcing New Capabilities



Our new direct-to-cloth printer improves the quality of your product, lowers our prices to you, and allows us to print the shirts, towels, and other items you want in much lower quantities. Call us at (405) 878-8770 or 800-246-9610 to learn more about how FireLake Designs can meet your needs for corporate apparel, prom, optional items, vinyl graphics, and signs. Or, visit us at 41707 Hardesty Road, Shawnee.



## Vice Chairman's Column

There is good news at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation as we move forward with great anticipation of a positive change in our Nation's government. Greater representation is what we have talked about for so long and soon it will be reality. What an exciting time in our Nation's history!

The new constitution is now a certified, official document after the BIA ruled the protest of the election by the three dissenters Sheila Hall, Diana Brasfield, and Penny Bishop, to be without cause or merit. We lost valuable time but are now determined to meet our deadlines to get the new constitution into effect.

Tribal members living outside Oklahoma will experience a major change in 2008 with a revised format to our former regional meetings. These meetings will be replaced with "meet the candidates" events. This change is necessary because we have such a short turn-around for the February 2 legislative election. Most of the planning time that was targeted toward regional meetings in prior years has been focused on planning for the upcoming election. I believe that you will find the "meet the candidates" events informative and refreshing.

We have scheduled "Meet the Candidates" meetings for each of the new districts (see the map on pages 1 and 6.) You will receive an invitation by mail to those in your district. I hope the location is near enough to your home that you can attend.

Michael Dodson or Nathan McKay of the Public Information Department will be



taping the meetings. The Nation's Web site will provide as much information as possible so that you can be an informed voter in your district. In addition, there will be a *HowNiKan* dedicated to the election process which will include a free ad for the candidates running for each legislative office.

There is so much important information in these last two editions of the *HowNiKan*. Keep these two issues close by in the upcoming weeks. Dedicate some time to learning about your Nation and how our new government will work. You will be pleased that you put forth the effort.

As always, I am graciously proud to serve as an elected official of this great Nation.

*May the Fall season be a vivid reminder to all of us that only God can create such beauty. - Vice Chairman Linda Capps*

*Vice Chairman Linda Capps*

### CPN Concrete Batch Plant

*Serving all your concrete needs*



**Quality service \* Quality Product\* Free estimates**  
**We accept orders from a 40-mile radius around Shawnee**  
**call J.R. Beshears at 964-4904 or 203-1082**

*CHC Happenings, con't. from page 8*  
 month tour.

A couple of weeks later we hosted a four day workshop that was conducted by the National Museum of the American Indian. The workshop centered primarily on museum collections, but all of our activities were presented. In addition to three members of the NMAI staff and two additional guest speakers, representatives from 14 tribes attended the conference.

**Upcoming Events** We have been asked to host a one-day Pre-Conference Workshop in October in conjunction with the National Tribal Archives, Library, and Museum Conference being held in Oklahoma City. Additionally, Grant Brittan, Manger of the Tribal Heritage Project, has been invited to give a presentation on our oral history project at the main conference.

**CPN Veterans Organization** The CPN Veterans Organization Color Guard has been very active over the past few months. Wearing their new red and blue vests, the Color Guard led the Grand Entry at the Festival Pow-Wow with eight flags and the Eagle Staff, followed by more than two dozen CPN veterans. This is the most flags carried by a CPN Color Guard at one time.

Four members of the Color Guard and several CPN veterans participated in two Grand Entries at the Gathering of Potawatomi Nations, hosted by the Forest County Potawatomi Nation in Crandon, Wisconsin in August.

The Color Guard was presented the colors in recognition on American Indian Cultural Month on Saturday, September 8, 2007 at the Oklahoma Air National Guard Base at Will Rogers Airport in Oklahoma City.

The Color Guard also participated in the upcoming Oklahoma Centennial Parade in Shawnee on Saturday, September 22, 2007

### CPN VETERANS TO HOST BANQUET HONORING TRIBE'S WWII VETERANS

The CPN Veterans Organization is making plans to host a banquet to recognize and honor CPN members who served during WWII. The event is scheduled for the evening of November 10, 2007. It will be held in the Events Center of the Firelake Grand Casino. Tickets for this event, which will include dinner, an honored guest speaker, music, and dancing, will be \$20 per person. Honored WWII veterans and one guest each can attend at no cost.

All CPN veterans, as well as other interested individuals, are invited to attend. If you would like to have an invitation mailed to you please contact the Cultural Heritage Center at 405-878-5830 or 800-880-9880. You can also e-mail us at [SPero@potawatomi.org](mailto:SPero@potawatomi.org).

The following list contains the names of CPN WWII veterans we have in our veterans' database. If you are a WWII veteran and your name is not on this list, regardless of where you live, please contact Stacy Pero at the phone number or e-mail address above. Our objective is to recognize all CPN WWII Veterans.

David Adams, Clarence Barnes, John Barnes Jr., Richard Beaubien, Freeman Bourassa Jr., Benton Burton Jr., Lawrence Bressman, Robert Buchanan, Glenn Burnett, Paul Clark, Zoe Combs, Lloyd Denton, Richard Dike, Thurman Dike, James Gardom, Horace Gillespie, Clenard Haas, George Hamilton, Billy Harris, Leroy Helcel, Ray Herndon, Averett Higbee, Glen Higgins, Joe Holeman, Julian Johnson, Richard Johnson, Eva Jordan, Carl Kime, and Charles Kimes.

Also, Frank Kremenak Jr., John Kremenak, Russell Lewis, Francis Long, Benjamin Lucas Jr., Thomas Lynn, Raymond Martin, Samuel McCollum, George Melot, James Moutaw, William Nadeau, Phillip Ogee Sr., John Paine, Jack Paslay, James Pearl, Robert Pearl, Kenneth Peltier Sr., William Pierson, Phillip Rafferty, Benjamin Rhodd, Clifford Robison, Jesse Slavin, Joe Slavin, Robert Slavin, Robert Smits, John Tarter, and Thomas Wade Sr.

### CPN Midwest Region Services Days

**2:00 PM TO 8:00 PM ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16**

**8:00 AM TO 12 NOON ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

Personnel from the CPN Clinic will be on hand to administer free flu shots and perform health checks. Clinic Director Randy Hall and Pharmacy Coordinator Joe LaReau will provide information about and answer questions concerning the Nation's free prescription medication-by-mail program for tribal members who are 63 and older.

Tribal Rolls Director Charles Clark will be available to make new photo IDs and answer tribal rolls and scholarship-related questions.

**There will be a "Meet the Legislative Candidates" event at 10 a.m. on Saturday.**

**All of this will be held at the CPN Community Center, 806 Nishnabe Trail, Rossville, KS.**

Please RSVP by Wednesday, November 14 to Cathie Hanson at 800-880-9880 or at [chanson@potawatomi.org](mailto:chanson@potawatomi.org). Please specify the number of adults and the number of children younger than 12 who will attend.



**Walking On, con't. from page 3**

He was preceded in death by his wife, Imogene, in 1992. He is survived by wife, Bobby, of the home; daughters and sons-in-law, Judy and Ken Grass of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, Barbara and Jake Gage of Tulsa, and Carol and Art Costain of St. Charles, Missouri; three stepchildren, Syd Orfanos, John Tarro, and Ralph Tarro, all of Sacramento, California; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Elmer E. "Johnny" Spillman (Bwa-Ke-Nomah)**

Elmer E. "Johnny" Spillman (Bwa-Ke-Nomah), 89, a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Shawnee, Oklahoma, and a resident of Topeka, Kansas, passed away on Saturday, September 8, 2007 at Midland Hospice. He was born on April 14, 1918 in Shawnee County, the son of John C. and Sophia L. (Boursaw) Spillman.

Elmer worked 13 years at Stormont Hospital; 2 years at Stormont-Vail Hospital; Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.; Gates Rubber Companies and the United States Post Office as a Special Delivery Carrier, retiring after 19 years of service.

He was a member of Faith Lutheran Church; lifetime member of the America Legion Post #400; Moose Lodge #555; and the Retired Letter Carriers.

Elmer is survived by his wife of 62 years, Helen of 62 years; daughters Barbara Holder; Sandy and Dan Bentsch and foster son, Ed Craig and foster daughter, Leyla Hendrix; four grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Bessie Brown; five brothers, Alvy, Earl, Cyrus, Carl, Roy;

and an infant daughter, Patricia Lynn.

A memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, September 13, 2007 at Faith Lutheran Church, 1716 SW Gage Blvd., where the American Legion Post #400 will perform a flag ceremony after the service.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Midland Hospice, 200 SW Frazier Circle, Topeka, KS 66606 or Faith Lutheran Church.

Penwell-Gabel Parker-Price is handled arrangements. To leave a special message for the family online, visit, [www.PenwellGabel.com](http://www.PenwellGabel.com).

**Curtis Matthew Elsey**

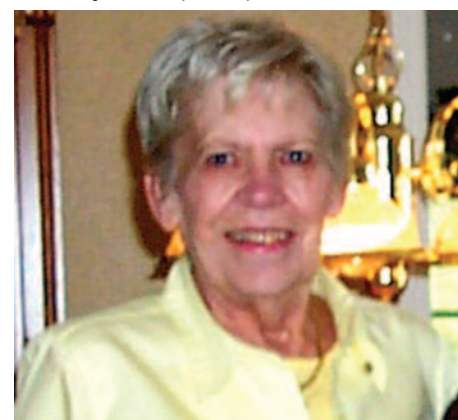
Curtis Matthew Elsey, 18, of Springdale, Arkansas, died July 14, 2007, in a four-wheeler accident near Springdale. Curtis was born July 21, 1988, at Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, the son of Lonnie Ray Elsey and Bonnie Jane Nearn Elsey.

Curtis was the grandson of the late Elzie Anthony Nearn and great grandson of Katie May Tescier. Paternal grandparents were the late Bruce Elsey and Ocie Shipp Elsey of Huntsville. He is survived by his parents of Springdale; his sister, Sarah Jane Elsey, of Springdale; his brothers, Anthony Bruce Elsey of Springdale, Dean Brumley of Springdale, Rodney Elsey of Huntsville, Texas, Ray Elsey of Springdale, and Rocky Elsey of Stephenville, Texas; his best friend, Josh Chelette, of Springdale; and nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services were held on July 17, 2007, at Brashears Funeral Home in Huntsville, Arkansas, and he lays at rest in McBroom Cemetery also at Huntsville. Pallbearers were friends Matt Shrader, Dakota Armbrister, Josh Tuck, Trent

Porter, Derrick Porter, and Brandon Landers.

Curtis loved to fish and hunt, he liked caving, and he was interested in Native American artifacts. He planned to be a taxidermist. He loved riding his four-wheeler and hanging out with his friends. Curtis was a loving son, brother, friend, and uncle. We will all miss him forever, and we are one day closer to being together again.

**Carolyn R. (Cari) Orr**

Carolyn R. (Cari) Orr died on August 22, 2007. She was born in Harrah, Oklahoma on January 23, 1934.

Mrs. Orr and her family moved to California when she was very young. In 1963, Cari married John D. (Jack) Orr. Mr. Orr passed away in 2005. In 1968, the family moved to Enterprise where they lived until 1985. For the past 22 years she has lived in West Linn, Oregon.

Mrs. Orr is survived by her four children, Mike Rich, Doug Orr, and Stefanie Webb, all of Beaverton, Oregon, and Jon Orr of West Linn. She is also remembered by five grandchildren, Jessica Rich, Caitlin Rich, Michael Rich, David Webb, and Alex Orr.

There was no service per Mrs. Orr's request.

**Neoma Pensoneau Baptiste**

Shawnee resident Neoma Pensoneau Baptiste, 80, died Sunday, Sept. 9, at her home at the age of 80. Neoma was born April 29, 1927, in Seminole, Oklahoma. She married Marion Jesse Baptiste.

Preceding her in death were her parents; beloved husband, Marion Jesse Baptiste; brothers, Cecil and Edward Pensoneau; son, Jerry Orr; son and daughter, LeRoy and Jody Baptiste; granddaughter, Misty McConnico and cousin, Grace Ethel Derrick.

Survivors include her sisters, Wanita Clifford of Shawnee, Velma Jones of



Ponca City, and Ernestine Green of McCloud; a daughter, Barbara Orr and family of Edmond, Dwayne Orr, Jessica, Jordan, Samantha, Becky and Josh; a daughter-in-law, Kathy Baptiste and family of Shawnee, Kim and Don Merlot, Tracey Baptiste, Justin and Tabitha Baptiste, Storm, Joey, Austin, Gabrielle, and Braden; a son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Cheryl Baptiste and family of Tecumseh, Donette and Jason Yates, Derrick Baptiste and Karla Shockey, Kulson, Gage, and Brody; a son, Charles Baptiste and family of Shawnee, Brandon Baptiste, Melissa Baptiste, Virgil Owens and Jeffrey, Journie, and Jamir; son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Rhonda Baptiste and family of Shawnee, Amy Wiggins, Blaze Wiggins, Jesse and Ross; son, Rick Baptiste of Shawnee; daughter, Nita K. Baptiste-Shreve and family of Shawnee, Samuel, Allison and Ethan Marsh; daughter and son-in-law, Darcee D. and Dwight Yancey and family of Shawnee, Ashley, Tony and Brodie Gatlin, Ryan and Rudy Yancey; son and daughter-in-law, Gregory and Donita Baptiste and family of Shawnee, Taylor; daughter, Mary Beth Baptiste of Shawnee; son, Timothy Baptiste of Shawnee; daughter, Suzette Baptiste and family of Shawnee, Tyler Baptiste and Nicholas Partain.

A rosary was held at 7 p.m. on September 12, 2007 at Walker Funeral Service Chapel. A funeral service was held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, September 13, 2007 at St. Benedict's Catholic Church with the Rev Maurus P. Jaeb, O.S.B., officiating. Burial was at Calvary Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Association or to the St. Benedict's Catholic Church Memorial Fund, 632 N. Kickapoo Street, Shawnee, OK 74801-6070.





<div><div>ELECTION ORDINANCE</div><div>OF</div><div>THE CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION</div><div>BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION</div><div>ARTICLE I - CITATION AND PURPOSE</div><div>S1-101: Citation</div><div>This enactment may be cited as the Election Ordinance of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.</div><div>S2-102: Purpose</div><div>The purpose of this ordinance is to establish the rules and procedures for conducting elections authorized in the Revised Constitution of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation as adopted August 16, 2007.</div><div>ARTICLE II - WORDS AND PHRASES</div><div>S2-101: Definitions</div><div>The following definitions shall control the meanings of the following terms:</div><div><div>a. “Tribal Court” shall mean the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Courts</div><div>b. “Legislative Ordinance” and “Legislative Resolution” shall mean the official document, and its adoption by the Legislature, by which the Legislature acts on behalf of the Nation under the authority granted to it by the Revised Constitution.</div><div>c. “Nation” and all derivatives thereof shall mean the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.</div><div>d. “Tribe” and all derivatives thereof shall mean the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.</div><div>e. “Legislative District” shall mean the geographical area from which a Legislator or Executive Officer may be elected.</div><div>f. “Revised Constitution” shall mean the Revised Constitution of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation as adopted by the Nation on August 16, 2007.</div><div>g. “Elective Office” shall mean an elected office of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.</div></div><div>S2-102: Time Periods</div><div>Unless otherwise provided herein, all of the time periods established herein for filing, challenges, contests, or appeals are jurisdictional and cannot be waived.</div><div>ARTICLE III - ELECTION COMMITTEE</div><div>S3-101: Creation</div><div>An Election Committee is hereby created and established having the duties and powers hereinafter set forth. The Election Committee shall conduct all elections and referendum votes in accordance with the Tribal Constitution and with this ordinance.</div><div>S3-102: Composition</div><div>The Election Committee shall consist of five persons: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Marshal.</div><div>S3-103: Appointment</div><div>Subject to confirmation by the Legislature, the Chairman of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation shall appoint the members of the Election Committee and designate the Chairman of the Committee:</div><div><div>a. On or before the first Wednesday in October</div><div>b. By resolution in substantially as set forth in Appendix Form 1. (Resolution Format)</div><div>c. If a vacancy occurs on the Election Committee, the Chairman shall fill the vacancy within thirty(30) days.</div></div><div>S3-104: Oath</div><div>Prior to entering into the duties of office, each Election Committee member shall take the following oath of office to be administered by a member of the Executive Committee or a Tribal Court Judge:</div><div>“I, ____, do hereby solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution and laws of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and will cause the elections of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to be conducted fairly, impartially, and in accordance with the laws of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, so help me God.</div><div>S3-105: Officer Selection</div><div>The Chairman of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation shall select a Committee Chairman from among the Election Committee members. A Vice Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Marshal shall be selected by the Election Committee, who shall certify in writing to the Executive Committee the names of the persons so selected.</div><div>S3-106: Sub-Appointments</div><div>The Election Committee may appoint such observers, clerks, counters, marshals, and alternates, as necessary to conduct the election and shall certify such appointments in writing to the Chairman</div></div>
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of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.
S3-107: Filing Certifications
Copies of all certified appointments and sub-appointments shall be filed with the Secretary of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and be open for public inspection at the Nation’s headquarters in Shawnee, Oklahoma.
S3-108: Eligibility
No person may be appointed to the Election Committee unless eligible and qualified.
<div>a. A person is eligible if:</div> <div><div>1. A member of the Tribe and</div><div>2. 21 years of age or older.</div></div> <div>b. A person is not qualified for appointment if:</div> <div><div>1. Under any court-ordered guardianship due to mental incapacity,</div><div>2. The natural or adopted brother, sister, parent, child, or spouse to a current candidate,</div><div>3. A current candidate for election to any tribal office to be decided by that election,</div><div>4. Ever convicted of a felony,</div><div>5. Ever found civilly or criminally liable of issuing a false publication in connection with a tribal election or criminal guilt of a non-felonious crime involving the election laws of the Tribe, or</div><div>6. Ever found civilly or criminally liable for breaching a fiduciary or contractual duty to the Tribe.</div></div>
S3-109: Term
Each Election Committee member shall serve from appointment until the election results for all offices have been certified.
S3-110: Compensation
Members of the Election Committee are to receive only such compensation, traveling expenses, or stipend as may be authorized by the Legislature.
S3-111: Records
The Election Committee shall maintain complete accurate minutes of meetings and retain all documents pertaining to an election. These records shall be filed with the Secretary of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation within forty-eight (48) hours after the conclusion of each meeting and shall be open for public inspection during normal office hours at the the Nation’s headquarters in Shawnee, Oklahoma.
S3-112: Duties
Each Election Committee member has the duty to become thoroughly familiar with this ordinance and the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws to see that these laws are rigorously followed and to immediately document and report any violations to the marshal or other law enforcement personnel. In addition:
<div>a. Chairman: The Chairman shall be the presiding member and responsible for the overall activities of the Election Committee, including safekeeping of the ballots and ballot box(es).</div> <div>b. Vice Chairman: The Vice Chairman shall assist the Chairman, preside in his absence and assist in the conduct of the election.</div> <div>c. Secretary: The Secretary shall record and maintain accurate minutes of meetings and records pertaining to an election. The Secretary shall verify the authenticity of these records and be responsible for providing all Election Committee certifications except where otherwise provided herein after each Election Committee meeting. All records shall be filed with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe within two (2) working days after each meeting.</div> <div>d. Assistant Secretary: The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary, serve in the Secretary’s absence, and assist in the conduct of the elections.</div> <div>e. Marshal: The Marshal shall maintain order at the polls and enforce the election laws. The Marshal shall have these powers from the time the polls open until declaration of all election results is final.</div> <div>f. Clerks: Appointed Clerks shall assist in the conduct of the elections and shall check off the voters on the list of qualified voters. Each Clerk shall keep a separate record of the members voting, which shall be cross-checked frequently by the Chairman or his designate to insure accuracy.</div>



ing is conspicuously posted in the tribal office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

S3-114: Rules

Upon the conclusion of each election, the Election Committee shall have the authority to recommend such rules, not inconsistent with this Ordinance, as may be necessary and proper for the conduct of tribal elections. Such rules shall be approved by the Legislature. Copies should also be posted in prominent places in the tribal offices and such other places as the Election Committee may deem advisable. A copy of the rules should be promptly delivered to the tribal newsletter for publication.

ARTICLE IV - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

S4-101: Election Days

All tribal elections and referendum votes, unless otherwise specifically provided by law, shall be on a Saturday. Regular elections of members of the Legislature and Executive Officers shall be held on the last Saturday in June of each election year. All other required Citizen Potawatomi elections or constitutionally mandated elections shall be held upon call of the Legislature or the Election Committee as provided by the tribal Constitution and By-Laws.

S4-102: Forms

The forms contained in the Appendix of Forms are sufficient under this ordinance and are intended to indicate the simplicity and brevity of statement which this ordinance contemplates. Except as provided herein, all forms needed for Citizen Potawatomi elections and referendum votes shall be prescribed and provided by the Election Committee. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation shall be responsible for the cost of producing all forms.

S4-103: Instructions To Voters

Instructions to voters describing the manner of casting one’s vote shall be posted at the polling place and issued upon request to all eligible voters with a ballot.

S4-104: Public Information

The Election Committee shall widely disseminate to the tribe information about the dates and times of election, locations of polling places, and other election-related data. The Election Committee is authorized to publish, in the tribal newsletter and in other newsprint media, names of candidates, election dates, polling places, election results, and other information as necessary to discharge its duties.

S4-105: Polling Place

The polling place of all Citizen Potawatomi elections shall be the Nation’s headquarters in Shawnee, Oklahoma and the mailing address for the submission of all absentee ballots shall be as designated by the Election Committee.

S4-106: Ballot Box

Locked empty ballot box(es) shall be provided and shown at the polling places prior to voting. Each ballot box shall be constructed of substantial material and shall be equipped with a lock so that the keys of one lock will not unlock others. Each box shall be equipped with a slot or opening in the top through which a ballot may be inserted, but so the box must be unlocked before the ballots can be removed.

S4-107: Access To Ballots

The Election Committee Chairman and Election Committee Secretary shall retain ballot box keys in their custody until all election results are finally certified. Only those authorized by this ordinance shall have access to the ballot boxes at specific times designated by the Election Committee.

S4-108: Voting Booths

At least two voting booths shall be provided at the polling place. The booths shall be constructed with a counter shelf so that:

- a. No more than one person is in the booth, and
- b. Voters can mark their ballots in secrecy.

S4-109: Poll Watchers

Each candidate may designate in writing one person, not a candidate, to watch the activities at the polls.

- a. A Poll Watcher is eligible if:
  - 1. A member of the Tribe and
  - 2. 21 years of age or older.
- b. A Poll Watcher is not qualified for appointment if:
  - 1. Under any court-ordered guardianship due to mental incapacity,
  - 2. Ever convicted of a felony,

- 3. Ever convicted of non-felonious crime involving the election laws of the Tribe, or
- 4. Ever found civilly or criminally liable for breaching a fiduciary or contractual duty to the Tribe.

Such designation must be presented to Election Committee Officials in writing one week prior to the election. Poll Watchers may not interfere in any way with the conduct of the election, but may observe only. Any poll watcher interfering with the election or attempting to electioneer in any way may be ejected from the poll area by a marshal or law enforcement officer.

S4-110: Electioneering And Loitering

No person shall be allowed to electioneer inside or within one hundred (100) feet of the polling place where and when the election is in progress. Neither will any loitering be permitted in the polling places during voting hours. Election officials at the polling place have the duty to obtain such assistance as may be required to maintain order about the building during the progress of the election.

S4-111: Voter Conduct

No intoxicated person will be permitted in the polling place. No person will be permitted to conduct himself in such a manner which may interfere with the election progress. No person shall engage in any activity which serves as a detriment to the election progress or which inhibits the rights of another to vote.

S4-112: Anonymous Election Material

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation, partnership, organization, or association to write, print, post, or distribute or cause to be written, printed, posted or distributed a statement, circular, poster or advertisement which is designed to influence the voters on the nomination or election of a candidate or to influence the voters on any constitutional or statutory amendment or on any other issue in a Potawatomi tribal election, or to influence the vote of any member of the Legislature or Tribal Council, unless there appears in a conspicuous place upon such circular, poster, or advertisement, either the name and address of the person, if an individual, or the name and address of the president, chairman, or secretary, or of two officers of the organization, if an organization. Persons violating this act shall be guilty of a crime punishable by the maximum incarceration and fine allowed by law.

S4-113: Application

The provisions of this section shall not be constructed to apply to any matter published in any newspaper, magazine, or journal recognized and circulating as such, which matter is published upon its own responsibility and for which it shall not charge or receive any compensation whatsoever, nor shall the provisions of this section apply to any publication issued by any legally-constituted election officials in the performance of their duties. For purposes of this provision only, a newspaper, magazine or journal is a publication which is published at intervals of either one month or less, on a continuous basis, and has been so published on said continuous basis for the six months prior to the date when ballots can first be requested by tribal members for elections of Legislative members at the General Council. The newspaper, magazine or journal must also bear the address of the business office where the publication or legal representative is located.

S4-114: Public Disclosure Of Campaign Contributions

Each candidate for elective offices in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation shall file a public disclosure statement that identifies all persons, corporations, groups, etc., contributing in excess of \$50.00 to that individual’s campaign. This disclosure must be made to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe no later than four (4) weeks after the day of the election. If no contribution has been received, a statement must be filed stating so. Failure to file public disclosure under this section is punishable by a fine of \$500.00 and possible disqualification from the election if the individual falsifies or refuses to file the required reports.

S4-115: No Posting of Tribal Campaign Election Literature or signs on Tribal Property.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation, partnership, organization or association to post election literature, material or signs on Tribal property. Posting of literature, signs or other partisan political activity is strictly prohibited. The distribution of tribal campaign literature will be allowed on Election Day at the tribal polling place, subject to specifications in Section S4-110. Nothing in this Section shall be interpreted as a general prohibition against the placement of advertisements in the tribal newspaper or on tribally-maintained Web sites.

S4-116: Candidates who are employed with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation must comply with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Employee Handbook with regard to campaigning or candidacy for office.

ARTICLE V - CHAPTER ONE - ELIGIBLE VOTERS

S5-101: Eligibility

Every tribal member 18 years of age or older is eligible to vote in accordance with the Revised



Constitution.

S5-102: Voters Lists

The Secretary of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation shall have the duty to compile from the tribal membership rolls a voter list of all persons who will be eligible voters on the date scheduled for the election, shall certify the voter list, and:

- a. Present a certified copy to the Election Committee no later than the first business day in January prior to the election, except for unforeseen circumstances,
- b. Maintain at least one certified copy of the names of the eligible voters of each Legislative District at the Nation’s headquarters in Shawnee, Oklahoma for public inspection during regular business hours no later than the second Monday in December, and
- c. Maintain at least one certified copy of the names of the eligible voters of each Legislative District at each polling place on Election Day to verify the eligibility of those presenting themselves to vote.

CHAPTER TWO - CHALLENGES

S5-201: Who May Challenge

Any person may challenge the eligibility of anyone whose name appears on the voter list, or may apply to have his name added to the voter list.

S5-202: How To Challenge

A voter list challenge is initiated by filing a written petition with the Election Committee. No special form of petition shall be required although the petition shall:

- a. Clearly indicate the substance of the challenge,
- b. Specify the name or names challenged
- c. Set forth the relief requested,
  - 1. To add a name, or
  - 2. To delete a name, and
- d. Include supporting evidence.

S5-203: Time For Challenge

A challenge must be initiated no later than ten (10) days after the Tribal Secretary deposits the certified voter list in the tribal office.

S5-204: Decision

The Election Committee should render a decision on a challenge within ten (10) days of filing. Failure to timely act will be considered a denial of challenge.

S5-205: Appeal

Any party aggrieved by the action or inaction of the Election Committee may thereafter appeal to Tribal Court.

S5-206: Appeal Time

An appeal must be filed within five (5) working days of the publication of the decision by the Election Committee.

S5-207: Appeal Parties

The individual members of the Election Committee and Legislature shall not be named as defendants in an appeal. The tribal attorney or the Tribal Chairman’s appointee shall represent the Election Committee, Legislature and/or Executive Officers, under the direction of the Tribal Chairman, and the court shall expedite such case so as to reach a final decision prior to Election Day. No election shall be postponed because of pending voter list challenge.

ARTICLE VI - CANDIDATES

S6-101: Eligibility To File

In order to file for any office, a candidate must be eligible and qualified:

- a. A person is eligible to be a candidate for a Legislative Office if:
  - 1. Eighteen (18) years of age or older,
  - 2. A member of the Tribe, and
  - 3. Physically residing within the respective Legislative District for a period of not less than six months.
- b. A person is eligible to be a candidate for an Executive Office if:
  - 1. Thirty-five (35) years of age or older,
  - 2. A member of the Tribe, and
  - 3. Physically residing within the State of Oklahoma for a period of not less than six months.
- c. A person is not qualified for an elected office if:
  - 1. Ever convicted of a felony or other offense involving dishonesty while holding an elected tribal office,
  - 2. Ever found civilly or criminally liable for a breach of fiduciary duty to the Nation or miscon-

duct in elected office, or

- 3. Ever impeached or recalled from an elected tribal office.
- d. Each successful candidate for an Executive Office in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation must submit a completed personal information form containing their personal financial information to the Comptroller of the Currency as required under the Standard Change of Control application form for National Banks no later than seven (7) days after the election results are certified. This statement will be incorporated into the candidate filing form.

S6-102: Ballot Eligibility

To be eligible to seek election and be placed on the ballot, a person must timely file for that office.

S6-103: Filed Candidate

- To be a filed candidate, one must:
  - a. Be eligible to file,
  - b. Timely file a declaration of candidacy on the appropriate form with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation or his designee or the Election Committee or their designee, and
  - c. Timely pay a filing fee of one hundred-fifty dollars (\$150.00) upon filing by guaranteed check (such as cashier’s or official bank check.)

S6-104: Filing Period

A candidate must file by United States Mail received no later than the end of the filing period, or 5:00 p.m. of the second Wednesday of January, or as designated by the Legislature.

S6-105: Form of Declaration

On the approved form, the declaration of candidacy must be by affidavit and contain sufficient information for the Election Committee to determine that the candidate is eligible to file, is seeking a particular office, and has complied with this ordinance. The declaration should be as shown in Appendix Form 2. Any reasonable copy of the form may be used.

S6-106: Names of Candidates

Candidates must file as legally named on the tribal rolls. Each candidate may specify one (1) nickname to be placed on the ballot alongside the candidate’s true name. No nicknames may be used if identical or substantially similar to the name or nickname of another candidate. Should a dispute over the use of a name arise, the Election Committee’s decision shall be final and such decision shall not be subject to appeal. To specify a nickname, a candidate must affirm in the declaration of candidacy that:

- a. The candidate is known by the nickname and
- b. The nickname is not being used for any other purpose than to accurately identify the candidate.

S6-107: Acceptance

The Election Committee shall accept any filing on the approved form by a person which, on its face, appears valid, that is, shows the candidate filing is eligible and qualified and has timely filed and tendered the filing fee. Acceptance shall entitle the candidate to have his name appear on the ballot unless the candidate withdraws as hereinafter set forth or unless a contest to his candidacy is sustained in the manner hereinafter described.

S6-108: Certification Of Slate

As soon as practical after the filing period closes, the Election Committee shall file a written certification of the slate of candidates for the election with the Tribal Secretary. The certification shall also indicate all filings not accepted and the reasons for non-acceptance.

S6-109: Use of Tribal Newspaper

After filing closes, the tribal newspaper will provide an equal amount of free space in the next edition for all candidates appearing on the certified slate. The purpose of allowing the free space is to allow the candidates to identify themselves to the voters. All other space in the tribal newspaper shall be available to candidates on a set-fee.

The contents of free and paid advertisements shall be reviewed to insure that they do not contain libelous, slanderous, false, or misleading statements. Deadlines for receiving advertisement copy shall be set by the editor and published in the newspaper.

S6-110: Filing For More Than One Office Prohibited

No person shall be a candidate for more than one office during any one election, nor may a tribal office holder seek another office except when the office holder’s term expires contemporaneously with the election. Each candidate must specify which office is being sought.

CHAPTER TWO - WITHDRAWALS

S6-201: Withdrawals

Any candidate for office may withdraw a declaration of candidacy by filing a written notice of



withdrawal with the Election Committee at any time prior to the election. The withdrawal notice shall contain the candidate’s name and the office sought, and shall be notarized or sworn to before a person authorized to administer oaths. A timely withdrawal is final. Notice shall be by certified mail.

S6-202: Procedure On Withdrawal

If a candidate withdraws, the Election Committee shall post notices to that effect at all polling places and within the voting booths, and may line through or otherwise obliterate the candidate’s name from the ballot. Any votes cast for a withdrawn candidate shall be rejected.

CHAPTER THREE - CHALLENGES

S6-301: Kinds

The certified slate may be challenged either because a candidacy was allegedly wrongfully certified or because a person's attempted filing was allegedly wrongfully rejected. Any challenge of a candidate or to the certified slate must be made within five working days after the slate has been certified and posted to be a valid challenge.

S6-302: Who May Challenge

Any candidate may challenge the eligibility of any other candidate for the same office. If only one candidate has filed for an office, any person on the voter list may challenge the eligibility of that candidate. Only the person whose filing is not accepted may challenge the non-acceptance.

S6-303: How To Challenge

A challenge must be initiated by filing a written petition with the Election Committee. Each petition shall state with particularity the reasons for the challenge.

S6-304: Hearing

Upon receiving a candidacy challenge, the Election Committee shall immediately deliver copies to the challenged candidate and all other candidates for that office. A hearing on the challenge must be held within five (5) days of receipt of challenge. The Election Committee must render a decision on the challenge within seventy-two (72) hours of commencing a hearing. No formal pleadings are required. The Election Committee may subpoena witnesses and take testimony under oath. The challenger has the burden of proof.

CHAPTER FOUR - APPEAL

S6-401: Appeal

Any proper party to a candidacy challenge aggrieved by the Election Committee decision may appeal to the Tribal Court.

S6-402: Appeal Time

An appeal must be filed with the Tribal Court on or before the expiration of two (2) business days following announcement of the Election Committee decision.

S6-403: Relief

The appellant shall have the burden of proof. The Tribal Court shall either:

- a. Affirm the Election Committee decision or
- b. Reverse the Election Committee decision and, depending upon which is appropriate, add or strike a candidate’s name from the slate certification.

S6-404: Time For Declaration

The Tribal Court has ten (10) days to act on the appeal preceding Election Day. Failure of the Tribal Court to render a decision within twenty (20) days is an affirmation of the Election Committee’s decision.

ARTICLE VII - BALLOTS

S7-101: Candidate’s Names

The name of any candidate for office shall be printed on the official ballot as set forth in the declaration of candidacy without any prefix, suffix, or title. A nickname may be included if properly requested. Positions on the ballot will be determined by incumbency first with the remaining candidates for a particular office being placed on the ballot in alphabetical order. As soon as the candidates filing period closes and period challenges expire without a timely challenge, the Election Committee will prepare a ballot. If a candidacy challenge is filed, the ballot will be prepared as soon as the challenge is resolved.

S7-102: Unopposed Candidates

Any candidate who is unopposed for an office shall:

- a. Appear on the ballot with the designation “unopposed” printed next to his name, and
- b. On Election Day be deemed elected to that office.

S7-103: Ballot Care

- a. Specific instructions to the voter may be printed at the top of the ballot. Ballots shall not be numbered or show any other lettering or identifiable markings, unless such markings be on a perforated “tear-off” slip to be removed prior to placing the ballot in the ballot box.
- b. Only one ballot shall be cast by each eligible voter.
- c. A ballot shall be cast only after the voter has signed the poll register unless voting by absentee ballot.
- d. Election Committee officials shall account for all “ballots.”
- e. A ballot shall be issued to each eligible voter by mail or through distribution at the tribal offices by the Election Committee.

ARTICLE VIII - ABSENTEE VOTING

S8-101: Eligibility

Any voter can vote by absentee ballot.

S8-102: Application

Requests for absentee ballots may be written, printed or typed and must include the correct mailing address, roll number, date of birth, and legal signature of the person making the request. These requests must be mailed to the Post Office Box designated by the Election Committee.

S8-103: When To Apply

Requests to vote an absentee ballot must be post-marked not less than twenty (20) days prior to the election.

S8-104: Receiving Ballot and Absentee Voter List

After the final certification of the slate of candidates has been made, the Election Committee will have until March 1st or as soon as practicable thereafter to print the ballots. Ballots will then be mailed to the voters no earlier than May 1st or later than June 20th upon receipt of an appropriate and timely request.

The Election Committee shall maintain an accurate written record (“Absentee Ballot List”) of all ballots so issued (including the name, address, roll number, and legal signature of the voter to whom each absentee ballot was issued, and the date of the issue).

S8-105: Voting

Those voting by absentee ballot shall mark their ballots, seal them in an inner envelope, and see that the absentee ballot is timely delivered. Only the outer envelope shall have the voter's name, return address, roll number and legal signature written upon it. A written reminder of the requirement of the specified information to be placed on the outer envelope shall be conspicuously printed on the outer envelope and on the ballot. Ballots will not be counted unless legal signature and role number are provided.

S8-106: Delivering Completed Ballot

Those wishing to vote by absentee ballot must see that their outer envelope with enclosed inner envelope and absentee ballot are delivered to the designated post office box not later than 10:00 a.m. of the last Saturday in June unless otherwise provided for by the Legislature.

S8-107: Handling

All absentee ballots received by the Election Committee shall remain in the Post Office or sealed locked ballot boxes provided for that purpose until 8:00 a.m. of Election Day, at which time the Chairman of the Election Committee, or an election official designated by the Chairman of the Election Committee, and at least one other election official shall:

- a. Receive the ballots from the post office,
- b. Personally transport the ballots to the polling place,
- c. Deliver the ballots immediately, still sealed, to the remaining members of the Election Committee,
- d. Deposit the ballots unopened in a special locked ballot box, and
- e. Tabulate the ballots by election officials in the presence of candidate poll watchers.

In the event of a large mail-in vote, the Election Committee has the option to verify (not count) the returned absentee ballots prior to Election Day. Prior to an official meeting of the Election Committee, the procedure will involve: 1) obtaining the envelopes from the post office 2) bringing the envelopes to the court room 3) certifying the identification of the voter on the outer envelope in the presence of a poll watcher (if appointed) and a tribal police officer, and 4) placing the envelopes in a sealed locked ballot box or returning them to the Post Office.

S8-108: Procedure Mandatory

No absentee ballot will be received at any time or by other means than provided herein.

ARTICLE IX - CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS  
CHAPTER ONE - VOTING



S9-101: Voting Period

The polls shall be opened at each polling place from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Saturday the day of General Council meeting. Any voter in line at the polling place at 2:00 p.m. but unable to cast a ballot before 2:00 p.m. shall be allowed to cast a vote.

S9-102: Voting

All voting is by secret ballot. Upon being identified as an eligible voter by the presentation of a Citizen Potawatomi Enrollment Card containing the member's photograph, or the presentation of an older Citizen Potawatomi Enrollment Card without the member's photograph and a second form of photographic identification, and verification of the prospective voter being on the official voter's list and not having previously received a ballot, each prospective voter shall:

- a. Sign his name on a voter register, kept for that purpose, to acknowledge receipt of the ballot,
- b. Be handed an unused ballot by an election official,
- c. Vote in privacy, in a voting booth, by marking the box opposite the name of the candidate supported by the voter,
- d. Fold the ballot so the choice cannot be seen by others, and
- e. Personally deposit the ballot in the ballot box.
- f. If electronic machines are used to tabulate the vote, the voter shall insert the ballot into the machine or the ballot shall be secured in a locked box until such time as it may be inserted.

Members of the Election Committee may, at their discretion, require a second form of identification beyond the Citizen Potawatomi Enrollment Card.

S9-103: Voter Assistance

The election officials may allow a voter to obtain the assistance of any person in casting a vote if the voter is physically unable to cast a ballot and assistance, without previous suggestion, is requested. The Election Committee shall decide whether assistance may be rendered which decision shall be final and unappealable.

S9-104: Marking The Ballot

A ballot shall show only the marking of the voter's choice and shall not show more choices than the election calls for. A person may choose not to vote for any candidate for a particular office. However, if a voter marks a ballot so that the vote is apparently for more than one candidate for a single office or for a candidate not properly listed, or bearing any other such material errors, the ballot will not be counted, but will be marked by an official and retained as hereinafter provided. Voters voting in person and not by absentee ballot, who mark a ballot improperly, may ask for another ballot.

S9-105: Mutilated Ballots

If a voter mutilates a ballot or renders the ballot unusable another may be obtained, and the mutilated ballot shall be folded and marked “mutilated” in ink. Each member of the Election Committee on duty at the polling place shall sign below this marking and the mutilated ballot shall be placed in a large envelope marked “mutilated ballots.” The envelope containing all mutilated ballots shall be placed in the ballot box at the end of the voting.

S9-106: Unused Ballots

Ballots unused at the end of the voting shall be tied together, marked “unused” in ink, signed by at least two election officials, and placed in the ballot box at the end of the voting.

CHAPTER TWO - COUNTING THE VOTE

S9-201: The Tally

All election material shall be transported to the counting room. Thereafter, the Election Committee shall:

- a. Unlock the ballot box(es),
- b. Remove the regular ballots, and
- c. Tabulate the vote.
- d. If electronic machines are used, tabulation of the vote is done as soon as the voter completes his ballot and inserts it into the machine or as soon as reasonably possible thereafter.

S9-202: Verifying the Absentee Ballots

The Election Committee shall verify the absentee ballots. Each outer envelope shall be opened, but the inner envelope shall remain unopened at that point. The Chairman shall then determine:

- a. Whether the person whose name is signed to the outer envelope and affidavit is a qualified voter and
- b. Whether the voter is on the absentee ballot list.

S9-203: Counting Ballots

The Election Committee shall count the absentee ballots manually or by electronic voting machines. If electronic machines are used, the count shall be tabulated on the day of the election.

S9-204: Observing Tally

At least two election officials shall view each ballot, and each counter shall keep a separate tally of the votes cast. Each candidate may select a watcher, not a candidate, who shall not interfere with the tally process, but can observe and keep a separate record of the tally of the ballots. If electronic machines are used to tabulate the vote, the tally shall be done electronically.

S9-205: Rejection Of Ballots

If, during the tallying of the votes, the members of the Election Committee are unable to determine from a ballot the choices of a voter, the ballot shall be rejected. A rejected ballot shall be marked “rejected” in ink. Each member of the Election Committee shall sign his name below this marking. Rejected ballots shall be kept together, and placed in the ballot box at the end of the tally.

S9-206: Certified Abstract

- At the close of the tally, the Election Committee members shall:
- a. Open each ballot box and display the empty box to all persons present to insure that no ballots are contained therein,
  - b. Determine the total vote cast including the absentee ballots for each candidate for each office,
  - c. Write down these totals, together with the number of rejected ballots, spoiled ballots, unused ballots and total ballots printed,
  - d. Sign the written totals as a certified abstract of the election results,
  - e. Read the certified abstract aloud to the public, and
  - f. Deliver copies of the certified abstract to:
    - 1. The Executive Committee,
    - 2. The Tribal Court Clerk, and
    - 3. The Election Committee files in the Tribal Secretary’s Office.

S9-207: Recounts

If the votes cast for two or more candidates (with the highest vote) is tied, or if the highest vote is larger than the next highest vote by less than 10% of the total vote cast for that office, the Election Committee shall recount the vote for that office on all the unmutilated, unrejected ballots, rejecting any from which it is unable to determine the choice of the voter. The recounts shall continue until two consecutive counts agree, and a new abstract shall then be prepared and read aloud to the public.

S9-208: Request For Recount

Since the Election Ordinance provides for automatic recount of ballots, any request for recount of ballots must list the reasons therefore in writing and be submitted to the Election Committee Chairman or his designated representative within two (2) working days after the election.

Such request must be accompanied by a non-refundable cashier or official check of \$250.00 and made payable to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Said check shall be forwarded to the tribal Secretary-Treasurer to be credited against the cost of the recount. The Election Committee shall meet and decide within five (5) days of receipt of the notice whether or not such reasons listed in the request are sufficient to cause a recount of ballots. If no recount is made, the \$250.00 is refunded.

S9-209: Run-Off Elections

A candidate must receive a majority of the votes in order to be elected. If the abstract shows that the highest number of votes cast for any one candidate is less than a majority of the votes cast, a run-off election shall be held within sixty (60) days between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast in the general election. In the event of a tie vote between the candidates with the second highest number of votes cast, three names shall be on the run-off election ballot. The Election Committee shall supervise the run-off election using the same rules and procedures followed in the general election. As soon as some candidate has received a majority of votes in the run-off election, no further run-off elections will be held.

S9-210: Retention Of Ballots

Upon completion of the election and announcement of the certified abstract, the Election Committee shall lock all ballots and records in the ballot box and deposit the ballot box in the vault of the designated bank, post office, or other secure area as approved by the Election Committee, to be held for safekeeping until final certification of the election results and installation of all officers. Only the Chairman and Secretary of the Election Committee shall have access to these records. After installation of all officers, the Election Committee shall return all ballots and election records to the Tribal Secretary to be placed in permanent confidential tribal records for a period of five (5) years. The documents will not be available for public viewing in order to preserve the confidentiality of the persons voting in the election. From and after the date of final installation of all elected officials and after the five-year period is completed, the Tribal Secretary may remove the election ballots and records, except the final certification of successful candidates, and destroy them. The final certification of election results entered by the Election Committee shall not be removed but shall be retained as a permanent public record.



S9-211: Election Certification  
The Election Committee shall certify the election results for all uncontested offices immediately after the appeal period for filing an election contest expires. If an elective office is timely contested, then no certificate of election for contested office shall be issued until, if appropriate, after the election contest is finally decided.

S9-212: Finality  
The Election Committee's certification of uncontested election results or the Election Committee's certification of the election results following an election contest provided for herein shall be final and unappealable.

ARTICLE X - INSTALLMENT

S10-101: Installment  
In order to provide for an orderly transition of power, all newly-elected officers shown on the certificate of election shall be installed immediately following the election by taking the Oath of Office before any member of the Citizen Potawatomi Judiciary or the Chairman of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation or Vice Chairman when authorized in writing by the Chairman. The Oath of Office is as follows:  
I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution and laws of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the duties of my office and represent the interest of the Potawatomi people. These things I will do to the best of my ability so help me God.

S10-102: Effect Of Installment  
Once an officer is installed, removal is only by impeachment, recall or some other procedure authorized by the tribal constitution or recount certification.

S10-103: Incumbents  
Consistent with Article 12, Section 1 of the Tribal Constitution, the term of an incumbent office holder shall not expire until installation of his successor.

ARTICLE XI - ELECTION CONTESTS  
CHAPTER ONE - ELECTION COMMITTEE REVIEW

11-101: Who Can Contest  
Only a candidate for the disputed office may contest the election results for that office.

S11-102: Grounds  
Only two (2) grounds may be asserted for contesting an election. The grounds are that the Election Committee erroneously counted or failed to count ballots, which failures were of such a magnitude that:  
a. Either the contestant is entitled to be elected to the office, or  
b. It is impossible to determine with mathematical certainty which candidate is entitled to be elected to the office.

S11-103: When To Contest  
Any candidate desiring to contest a tribal election for an office must do so within two (2) business days after announcement of the certified abstract of election results.

S11-104: How To Contest  
A contest can only be initiated by:  
a. Timely filing with the Election Committee a verified statement setting forth the particular grounds for the contest and  
b. Depositing \$250.00 in a guaranteed cashier's check or an official check with the Election Committee to cover costs of the hearing (if the contest is successful, the deposit shall be refunded).

S11-105: Election Committee Hearing  
The Election Committee shall set a hearing of the contest no later than fourteen (14) days after the contest is filed. Written notice of such hearing shall be mailed or delivered to each candidate for the office contested. Any party to the election protest and the Election Committee shall have the right to view the election ballots and records in the presence of the Election Committee Chairman in the tribal offices. Any party to the protest or a tribal member shall be entitled to copies of the ballots from the Court Clerk upon payment to said clerk of normal and customary charges. Said certified copies shall be received as evidence by the Election Committee in like manner as an original. Alternatively, the Election Committee, upon request of a party or on its own motion, may convene a hearing for any protested election at the Tribal Court for the purpose of reviewing the election materials. After hearing the proofs and allegations of the contestants, the Election Committee shall make factual findings and one of the following conclusions:  
a. That the contested election should be confirmed,

- b. The contestant should be declared the winner of the election, or
- c. The contested election should be set aside and a new election held.

CHAPTER TWO - APPEAL

S11-201: Appeal  
Any proper party to an election contest aggrieved by the findings and decisions of the Election Committee may appeal to the Tribal Court by the proper filing of a Quo Warranto action within the time periods established by this Ordinance.

S11-202: Time  
An appeal must be filed within five (5) days of receipt of notification of the decision of the Election Committee.

S11-203: Parties  
The Election Committee and the person whose election is challenged are indispensable parties to the appeal. Any other candidate for that office may intervene. The individual Election Committee members are not necessary or proper parties to such action. The tribal attorney or the designee of the Chairman of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation shall represent the Election Committee, Legislature and/or Executive Officers, under the direction of the Tribal Chairman, and the Court shall expedite such case so as to reach a final decision as soon as is practicable under the circumstances.

S11-204: Relief  
The Tribal Court, whose decision is final, may only:  
a. Confirm the Election Committee decision,  
b. Order a new election for the contested office, or  
c. Reverse the Election Committee decision and order the Election Committee to certify the election of the contestant to the office.

S11-205: Standard  
Neither the Election Committee nor the Tribal Court shall invalidate any certified abstract of election results and order a new election for an office unless clear and convincing evidence shows that the person receiving the most votes for the contested office as shown on the certified abstract cannot be mathematically determined to be the clear winner.

ARTICLE XII - REFERENDUM

S12-101: General Council Resolutions  
All actions taken with respect to the authority reserved to the Council by the Revised Constitution shall be made by General Council Resolutions and shall not be final until they are voted on in a referendum election conducted pursuant to Article 13 of the Revised Constitution. The reserved powers of the Council are the authority to approve all actions of the Legislature that result in (a) the appropriation and budgeting of all moneys of the Council held in trust by the Tribe as the proceeds of any claim against the United States, (b) the sale, purchase, mortgaging, or encumbrance of trust lands or interest therein, and (c) the approval of any settlement of treaty claim of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation against the United States.

S12-102: Absentee Votes  
All absentee votes shall be handled by the Committee in the same manner as that prescribed for casting tribal election ballots. All absentee ballots must be distributed at least twenty (20) days prior to any General Council Meeting and received by the Election Committee by 10:00 a.m. on the day of any General Council Meeting. These ballots will be received for counting and counted on the day of the General Council Meeting and the results certified to the Business Committee. The issues to be voted on must receive a majority vote for adoption. Results of the vote will be published in the tribal newspaper.

S12-103: Resolution Preparation  
Preparation of Resolutions for referendum vote shall be by the Legislature or Executive Committee or by provisions provided for under Article X of the Tribal Constitution.

ARTICLE XIII - SPECIAL ELECTIONS

S13-101: Election Board  
When a special election is properly called, the Legislature by resolution shall establish an independent election board to conduct the special election.

S13-102: Composition  
The independent election board shall have the same composition as that of the Election Committee provided herein.



# Bode'wadmimwen Mzenegen

## Language Perspectives

### Épegnegéwen (Lacrosse)

Since our previous HowNiKan issue, the language department has updated its website, with new grammar references as well as the first addition of the Potawatomi Dictionary. The dictionary is downloadable from our Web site - [www.potawatomi.org](http://www.potawatomi.org). Justin Neely has been preparing the entries for download from the Web site. The entries are not only written but have audio files as well, so you can hear the word spoken. This is a valuable tool for language-learners, so please try it out. If you would like a hard copy of the complete dictionary minus the audio files can be printed from your computer.

We also mentioned starting a lacrosse program for our youth. The wheels are in motion for an exciting time and great opportunity to bring back part of our culture. One of the first documented encounters the west had with the modern day sport of lacrosse was with our Potawatomi ancestors in Michigan. Monsieur de Sabrevois observed a Potawatomi village in 1718 playing the sport and wrote in his journal:

*In summer they play a great deal at la crosse, twenty or more on each side. Their bat [crosse] is a sort of small racket, and the ball with which they Play is of very Heavy wood, a little larger than the balls we use in Tennis. When they Play, they are entirely naked; they have only a breech-clout, and Shoes of deer-skin. Their bodies are painted all over with all Kinds of colors. There are some who paint their bodies with white clay, applying it to resemble silver lace sewed on all the seams of a coat; and, at a distance, one would take for silver lace.*

*They play for large Sums, and often The prize amounts to more than 800 Livres. They set up two goals and begin their game midway between; one party drives*



Michael Dykstra and his Lacrosse stick

*The ball one way, and the other in the opposite direction, and those who can drive it to the goal are the winners. All this is very diverting and interesting to behold.*

*Often one Village Plays against another, the poux [Potawatomi] against the outaouacs [Ottawa] or the hurons, for very considerable prizes. The French frequently take part in these games.*

Nowadays, tribes across America play lacrosse in a variety of arenas. The Oneida in the Northeast are well known for their competitive tribal team. The Choctaws of Mississippi play a version of stick ball that resembles lacrosse. Though the game has evolved over the last 300 years, the cultural ties at the heart of the sport have not changed significantly.

I had a wonderful, Lacrosse-related experience at the 2007 Gathering. I worked with a young man from Gun Lake named Kevin Finney on my very own woodland-style lacrosse stick. I carved for approximately three-and-a-half hours. Though it is my first stick, I still have a sense of pride connected with the labor



A long-ago Potawatomi and his Lacrosse stick endured.

Now is the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's time to support her youth in our traditional sport. To begin, we would like to start a boys' Lacrosse team, venturing to a girls' team the next year. Our goal is to promote a sense of pride in our tribe, starting with our youth. So, be looking forward to supporting our Nation's lacrosse teams for years to come.

## Dykstra enjoys Gathering experience

I am very delighted to share my experiences at the 2007 Gathering of the Potawatomi Nations. There seemed to be almost too much information to process, but, I have had some time to think about my experiences in Wisconsin.

I am very honored to have been allowed to take part in such cultural activities as black ash basketry, sunrise ceremonies, and an impromptu naming ceremony, to name but a few.

The Forest County Potawatomis were wonderful hosts. They have many members participating in such cultural activities as dancing, feasts, and other traditional ceremonies on a regular basis. I was moved to see the hope that is alive in Wisconsin.

This experience revealed that many facets of our history that I thought were lost are still very much alive. It's refreshing to see that our culture is vibrant and well all over our homeland.

We would like our members to have a similar experience in Oklahoma. Hence, we've scheduled cultural teachings starting in October 2007. The lessons are to be offered once a month at the Sharp property near the pow wow grounds. We believe the essence of our native heritage might be dormant but is still alive in each of us. So, come out, celebrate our culture, and learn our traditions.

## Language Department Notice

We are looking for a site to host a beginners class in Oklahoma City. If you know a good location and/or are interested in this class please contact the language department at 405-275-3121 or e-mail [MDykstra@potawatomi.org](mailto:MDykstra@potawatomi.org).

Also we are planning monthly culture classes in Shawnee on the second weekend of each month. They will cover topics such as the sweat lodge, cultural stories, migration story, seven grandfather teaching, and seasonal feasts. They will be held in an immersion teaching style. That way you will learn language and cultural knowledge.

## WIGWAM KEDWENEN- HOUSEHOLD WORDS

In Potawatomi, when an e is followed by an n it often creates an ih sound as in sin. When an e is followed by a k or t, it usually makes an uh sound like in mut. If an e has a mark (e') it sounds like eh. O always sounds like oh. I is pronounced ee like feed. A is pronounced ah as in father. Here are Potawatomi words for household objects:

Dopwen - table; Bdekjigwen - fork; Koman - knife; E'mkwan - spoon; Jiptebwen - chair; Notakchehen - radio; Wabnotakchehen - TV; Nagen - dish; Naken - carpet/rug; Waboyan - blanket; Biwabkos - phone; Mkom kekos - fridge; Mzenegen - book/paper; Mbage - bed; Shkwade'm - door; Des-nagen - plate; Wzhobnotakchehen - computer; Mesnatek - video/dvd; and Waskonenjegen - light/lamp.



# Hello, goodbye to 'citizen warriors'

by Amanda Gire, Shawnee News-Star Staff Writer



With CPN employees lining the street, members of the 180th Infantry, 45th Division march to the Cultural Heritage Center for a "Welcome Home/Bon Voyage" reception.

They served their country side-by-side overseas, and they walked side-by-side Friday as a crowd of supporters provided a roaring applause, welcome home signs and flags waving in the air. The local Thunderbird soldiers of the Oklahoma Army National Guard's 180th Infantry, 45th Division came home from Afghanistan to a welcome home reception at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center.

The soldiers received the warm welcome home as other soldiers of the division were given words of inspiration as they prepare to be deployed to Iraq. The reception was a casual gathering to show some support, because the troops didn't want a parade, local veteran Cecil E. Johnston said. The troops did want a place to visit and gather with family members.

While the reception was an opportunity for soldiers to gather, it was also an opportunity for community leaders to express what the soldiers mean to the community. Troy Graham with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation said the soldiers would never know how much he appreciated them as his eyes filled with tears. "Thank you from our hearts, and we wish you God's speed. Just watch your back and come back to us," he said.

Shawnee City Commissioner Pam Stephens, who also is a National Guard soldier, welcomed home the "citizen warriors," because that is what the National Guard soldier has become. "A citizen warrior wears many hats," she said, adding the soldiers were moms, dads, sons, daughters

and workers first, and when the time came to serve, they picked up their soldier hats," Stephens said.

She said the troops deserved to be commended for serving their country and leaving their families behind, but the families deserved to be commended as well. "You can't fight a war and serve your country without knowing your (the families) are taking care of business at home," she said.

Oklahoma First Lady Kim Henry, a Shawnee native, said that on behalf of Oklahomans and Americans, she wanted to thank the soldiers for their service and dedication. "You represent the best of Oklahoma and of your community," Henry said.

Johnston said the reception wasn't for the people but mostly for the troops coming home and leaving home. "All I am doing is for the troops," he said. "It's hard to leave home."

The troops might not have wanted a big parade or celebration, but Lt. Michael Scanlon said what the reception and community support means can't be put into words. "The National Guard couldn't be a success without the community," he said. While the soldiers are deployed, it's the community who picks up the slack, Scanlon said.

The reception was a way for the troops to see the community support and pride it has in the troops serving overseas. "This is to put their eyes on the people who do so much," he said. "It's the difference between success and failure."

The reception was a direct result of the

Adopt-a-Unit program, the Senior Center, American Legion, VFW posts, DAV posts, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and other community members.

Other officials in attendance were Rep. Kris Steele and representatives from Rep. Mary Fallin's office, Sen. James Inhofe's office, and Sen. Tom Coburn's office.

Amanda Gire may be reached at [amanda.gire@news-star.com](mailto:amanda.gire@news-star.com) or at 214-3934.



CPN Veterans Association President Troy Graham and Oklahoma First Lady Kim Henry speak at the reception for the Shawnee-area Army National Guardsmen.

*Potawatomi Cornerstone, con't. from page 5*

supply in June of that year. It was made clear that, if there was further delay and defiance, troops from Ft. Leavenworth would be sent to solve the problem by force.

Maj.Gen. Edmond Gaines, who understood the situation, took command before it got out of control. To win back the confidence of the Potawatomis, Gaines re-established the food supply and offered suitable transportation to Kansas and Iowa.

Caldwell then agreed to the relocation. He realized that a lingering Potawatomi presence in Missouri would mean serious trouble from white settlers and federal and state governments bent on using deadly force in place of further negotiations.

The majority of the Potawatomi popula-

tion, numbering a little more than 1700, began their march to Council Bluffs, Iowa in July, reaching their destination in mid-August. Those who were old and infirm were taken by steamboat. They were soon joined by their fellow tribal members who had already made Iowa their home. This group of Potawatomis become known as the United Bands.

Quikito, a Potawatomi chief, living on the Platte Reserve, agreed to move his small number of followers to the reserve along the Osage River near Osawatomie in Kansas, the original reserve that so many had disliked. It was home to the few remaining Potawatomis from the first removal who did not migrate to the Platte Reserve.

Other small groups of Potawatomis moved to the reserve as well. At this time, the population was just under 700. The reserve would become known as the Mission Bands Reserve. It was home to those Potawatomis pursuing agriculture, trade, commerce, and education as a way of life, as opposed to those who settled in Iowa and wanted to maintain the traditional way of life.

Caldwell's party was the last group removed to Council Bluffs. White migration into Iowa was already underway, and it was just a matter of time before the Council Bluffs Indians would be forced to re-settle again. Another reason for ending further relocations to Council Bluffs was the potential for war between the Potawatomis and Sioux. Commissioner of Indian Affairs Carry Harris sent a message to Brigadier General Henry Atkinson that all Indians would be moved to Kansas. Caldwell would have been forced to move to Kansas, but the letter didn't arrive until Caldwell and his followers were well on their way to Iowa.

There were now two distinct bands. Future relocations would be taken to Osawatomie on the Mission Band's Reserve, including those who survived the Trail of Death. During this time, attempts to unify the two bands proved unsuccessful.

Indian agents were not willing to leave this avenue of consolidation alone however. Iowa was seeing an influx of white settlement, as predicted. And, the Indians at Council Bluffs were going to be moved nonetheless. A new Potawatomi National Reserve was created in 1843, for the purpose of unifying the Mission and Council Bluffs Bands. However, it wouldn't be until the treaty of 1846, that these two bands would be forced together.



## Potawatomi Trail of Death Association formed, Web site created

Since 1988, Indianan Shirley Willard has worked with a group of Potawatomi who had ancestors to gain recognition for the Potawatomi's 1838 Trail of Death from Indiana to Kansas.

Willard says, "I read a letter in the *HowNiKan* in which (CPN member) George Godfrey said he thought something should be done to mark the 150th anniversary of the Trail of Death. I wrote to him, and a partnership was born which continues to this day."

Godfrey, Willard, and volunteers have did a number of things to commemorate the 150th anniversary in 1988, including planting a Great Peace Tree at the Trail of Courage Living History Festival at Rochester, Indiana. Additionally, they planted a cedar tree for each person who died on the Trail.

William O. Wamego and his sons, whose ancestor, Chief Wamego, was on the 1838 death march, re-enacted the march through Rochester on Main Street by riding in a horse-drawn jail wagon. The group traveled as a caravan of cars and trucks to retrace the original 660-mile route.

"We formed committees to do research in each state and county to find the original route taken by the Potawatomi in 1838," Willard explained. "We contacted all 25 counties and invited them to participate. Many of them did, and we have been working with them ever since."

Here's a little background history for those who have not heard of the Potawatomi Trail of Death: Chief Menominee refused to sign the treaty in 1836 which would sell his land for \$1 an acre and require him and his band to move west in two years. He lived at Twin Lakes in north central Indiana, where Catholic missionary priests baptized members of his group and helped them become farmers.

But Indiana Governor David Wallace (grandfather of Ben Hur author Lew Wallace) sent Gen. John Tipton with 100 volunteer militia to round up all the Potawatomi they could find in three days and march them to Western Territory, now called Kansas. They marched single-file down Rochester's Main Street on September 5, 1838.

That night the first death occurred. A Potawatomi infant died at the camp at Mud Creek. In Logansport. There, the Potawatomi celebrated their last Mass in Indiana, with Bishop Brute and Father

Benjamin Petit. Fr. Petit had been their missionary priest for the past couple of years; he was greatly loved.

George Winter, the frontier artist from England, sketched the Potawatomi and later made oil paintings.

As they marched across Indiana, more Potawatomi died, mostly children and the elderly. Father Petit obtained permission to accompany them, catching up with the emigration at Danville, Illinois.

He baptized and performed funeral rites and helped with the sick. There was a terrible drought that fall, and what little water they found was stagnant. Many of the travelers fell ill with fever, probably typhoid.

By the time they reached the end of the trek, 42 of the 859 Potawatomi had died. Fr. Petit died on the way back to Indiana, accompanied by his good friend, a Potawatomi named Abram Burnett.

In 1850, Fr. Edward Sorin went to St. Louis and took Petit's remains to Notre Dame University at South Bend, Indiana.

Today, Petit's remains rest under the Log Cabin Chapel at Notre Dame. Because of Fr. Petit's letters, John Tipton's letters, William Polke's diary, and the George Winter pictures, all published in separate books by the Indiana Historical Society, the Potawatomi Trail of Death is very well documented.

"I first got involved in commemorating this terrible event in 1976, when one of my sons placed a historical marker for the first death on the Trail of Death for his Eagle Scout award," Willard said. She was president of the Fulton County Historical Society, which began the Trail of Death Rendezvous in 1976 to honor the Potawatomi.

"We changed the name to Trail of Courage Living History Festival as it got better organized and we wanted to show the Potawatomi before the forced removal," Willard added. This annual event continues and has grown to attract between 12,000 and 18,000 people every fall.

The initial Trail of Death Commemorative Caravan in 1988 attracted 12 Potawatomi and several historians and other interested persons. The Trail of Tears Commemorative Wagon Train took place at the same time.

"We decided to get the Potawatomi Trail of Death made into a National Historic Trail like the Trail of Tears," Willard says. "But, when I contacted the National Park Service, they said this was a



*George Godfrey speaks at the Davis' Point encampment site marker on the 2003 Trail of Derath Commemorative Caravan.*

regional not a national trail and that it would cost \$200,000 for research."

Willard believed that would be a waste of taxpayer's money because her group had already done the research. Thus, they asked the state legislatures of Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and Kansas to pass resolutions declaring it a Regional Historic Trail. That was accomplished with help from the local people in each state.

Willard says, "We decided to travel as a commemorative caravan every five years, in 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2003. I organized the caravans by telephoning and writing to people in each county."

In 2003, the Fulton County Historical Society in Rochester, Indiana published a book, **Potawatomi Trail of Death - 1838 Removal from Indiana to Kansas**. It has all the primary resources in one place, including Father Petit's letters, William Polke's diary, muster rolls, John Tipton's letters, George Winter's sketches of the Potawatomi who went west, St. Philippine Duchesne, missionary to the Potawatomi after they arrived in Kansas, biographies of families on the Trail of Death, index, bibliography, and map.

This book has 440 pages and sells for \$40 plus \$6 shipping. It is available from the Fulton County Historical Society, 37 E 375 N, Rochester, IN 46975. Proceeds help pay for the Potawatomi Trail of Death

Newsletter, mailing news of the caravans and meetings, historical markers, and related activities.

The group set a goal of placing historical markers at each Trail of Death campsite, every 15 to 20 miles. "Using the 1838 diary, we knew approximately where they camped each night," Willard explained. "I called many, many people to get volunteers to erect the historical markers."

Nearly 30 were erected by Boy Scouts for their Eagle awards, and several by Girl Scouts, local clubs, museums, individuals, and Potawatomi families. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Pokagon Band Potawatomi tribal officers, and some individual members of the Prairie Band sponsored markers, too.

In 2003, during the fourth caravan, three markers were dedicated, as the group achieved its initial goal. Another historical marker was erected at Logansport, Indiana in 2004. There are now 76 Trail of Death historical markers.

In 2005, the group formally organized as the Potawatomi Trail of Death Association, which is a branch of the Fulton County Historical Society. "It replaces our Indian Awareness Center, which had published newsletters and assisted with the commemorations," Willard said. David Thomas Anderson, Seattle, Washington, a Citizen Potawatomi member, designed the logo. The association publishes a newsletter twice a year. Dues are \$20 a year for individuals, \$30 for group or family.

Officers of the Potawatomi Trail of Death Assn. are George Godfrey, Athens, Illinois, president; Sister Virginia Pearl, Pawnee Rock, Kansas, vice president; Dolores Grizzell, Winamac, Indiana, secretary; Shirley Willard, Rochester, Indiana, treasurer; and Susan Campbell, Kalaheo, Hawaii, editor. Board members are Don Perrot, Tecumseh, Oklahoma and Dora May Craven, Huntsville, Missouri.

The association has set up a Web site [www.potawatomi-tda.org](http://www.potawatomi-tda.org) with the help of Webmaster Dale Travis, Decatur, Illinois. It contains pictures of all the Trail of Death markers, donors, driving directions, GPS locations, the diary, and much more. It has about 200 pages.

In 2006, the TDA started a new project of erecting historic highway signs similar to the Lewis and Clark Trail signs. The logo designed by David Thomas Anderson is used on the signs. They are being erected to help travelers follow the original route and find the Potawatomi Trail of Death historical markers and camp sites.

Legislative Dist./Position	Represents/Elected By	Upcoming Elections	Current Officeholder
Chairman	All CPN Members	June 2009/June 2013/June 2017	John A. Barrett
Vice Chairman	All CPN Members	June 2010/June 2014/June 2018	Linda Capps
Secretary-Treasurer	All CPN Members	June 2010/June 2014/June 2018	D. Wayne Trousdale
Legislative District #1	Legislative Dist. #1 Residents	February 2008/June 2009/June 2013	N/A
Legislative District #2	Legislative Dist. #2 Residents	February 2008/June 2009/June 2013	N/A
Legislative District #3	Legislative Dist. #3 Residents	February 2008/June 2009/June 2013	N/A
Legislative District #4	Legislative Dist. #4 Residents	February 2008/June 2009/June 2013	N/A
Legislative District #5	Legislative Dist. #5 Residents	February 2008/June 2010/June 2014	N/A
Legislative District #6	Legislative Dist. #6 Residents	February 2008/June 2010/June 2014	N/A
Legislative District #7	Legislative Dist. #7 Residents	February 2008/June 2010/June 2014	N/A
Legislative District #8	Legislative Dist. #8 Residents	February 2008/June 2010/June 2014	N/A
Legislative District #9	Oklahoma Members Voting At-Large	February 2008/June 2008/June 2012	N/A
Legislative District #10	Oklahoma Members Voting At-Large	February 2008/June 2011/June 2015	N/A
Legislative District #11	Oklahoma Members Voting At-Large	February 2008/June 2011/June 2015	N/A
Legislative District #12	Oklahoma Members Voting At-Large	June 2008/June 2012/June 2016	Paul Schmidtkofer
Legislative District #13	Oklahoma Members Voting At-Large	June 2011/June 2015/June 2019	Bobbie Bowden

Election Ordinance, con't from page 17

S13-103: Powers of the Election Board

The independent election board shall have the same powers and duties as set forth herein for the Election Committee and shall have such further powers as are necessary to carry out the duties imposed by the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws. Further, the independent election board will have the power to establish different time periods for filing, challenges, contests and appeals, but shall not have power to change the other substantive and procedural rules provided for herein including, by way of example only, the eligibility to vote and the eligibility and qualifications of a candidate.

ARTICLE XIV - VIOLATIONS

S14-101: Misdemeanor

In addition to any other penalties (civil or criminal) provided by law, any person willfully violating the duties and obligations imposed by this ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be punished up to the maximum allowed for misdemeanors.

S14-102: Venue and Jurisdiction

The venue and jurisdiction for all violations of this Ordinance is placed exclusively in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Courts.

ARTICLE XV - QUO WARRANTO

S15-101: What Is Quo Warranto

Quo warranto is the name of the writ by which title to an office is resolved. It is not a substitute for or an alternate to the election challenges or appeals provided herein before.

S15-102: Who May Seek

Only a person claiming a better right to the office may bring a quo warranto action.

S15-103: Who Is The Proper Party Defendant

The only proper party defendant is the person who holds title to the office.

Meet the Legislative Candidates Meetings

Saturday, November 10	Albany, NY	10:00 a.m.	District 1
Saturday, November 10	Baltimore, MD	6:00 p.m.	District 2
Sunday, November 11	Raleigh, NC	10:00 a.m.	District 2
Sunday, November 11	Orlando, FL	6:00 p.m.	District 2
Saturday, November 17	Rossville, KS	10:00 a.m.	District 4
Sunday, November 18	Chicago, IL	10:00 a.m.	District 1
Saturday, December 1	Phoenix, AZ	10:00 a.m.	District 5
Saturday, December 1	Albuquerque, NM	6:00 p.m.	District 5
Sunday, December 2	Denver	10:00 a.m.	District 5
Saturday, December 8	Ontario, CA	10:00 a.m.	District 6
Saturday, December 8	Sacramento, CA	6:00 p.m.	District 7
Sunday, December 9	Seattle/Tacoma	10:00 a.m.	District 8
Saturday, January 5	Dallas/Love	10:00 a.m.	District 3
Saturday, January 5	Houston	6:00 p.m.	District 3

The meeting locations will be close to the airports in each city. Invitations will be mailed to tribal members in the districts designated with the exact meeting location. Oklahoma meetings will be conducted in January in Ardmore, Chickasha, Lawton, McAlester, Shawnee, Stillwater, and Tulsa. Dates and times will be included in the invitations to tribal members who live in Oklahoma.

Constitutional revision, con't. from page 1

Department.”

Artman’s decision set in motion a 10-day window for the existing Business Committee to approve apportionment of tribal members who live outside Oklahoma into eight population-balanced legislative districts. It also started a clock ticking on “a special election (to be) held within 120 days of the adoption of this Amendment in which eleven (11) Legislators will be elected.” That election will be held on February 2, 2008.

Ratification of the approval vote creates a 16-member CPN legislature. Half the members will be elected at-large from Oklahoma to represent their fellow Citizen Potawatomis in the state. The other eight members will each represent a legislative district outside Oklahoma. Tribal members in each outside-Oklahoma district will elect the representative from their district.

The current Business Committee, which will cease to exist once the 11 remaining members of the new CPN Legislature are elected, has approved boundaries for the population-balanced legislative districts outside Oklahoma. A map depicting those districts can be found on page 1 of this *HowNiKan*.

The Business Committee has amended the Nation’s Election Ordinance to set up a process for filing for office for tribal members who would like to represent their fellow Potawatomis in the legislature. The filing period opens on Monday, October 29, 2007 and closes at 5 p.m. on Thursday, November 8, 2007. The filing fee is \$150. A filing form can be found on page 24 of this *HowNiKan* or online at [www.CPNElectionCentral.org](http://www.CPNElectionCentral.org).

Prospective candidates can file via mail

at CPN Election Committee, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801. A copy of the prospective candidate’s tribal membership card must accompany the notarized filing papers.

A Ballot Request Period will begin on November 1, 2007 and end on January 20, 2008. An in-person polling place will be open from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 2, 2008 for all 11 legislative positions to be filled in this election. It will be at the Nation’s tribal courtroom in the Administration Building.

If, in any of the 11 elections, there is no candidate who receives at least a majority of the votes cast in that race, the top two vote-getters will face each other in a run-off election.

CPN officials believe the Nation is the first Indian tribe in the United States to extend this level of participation in its government to members who live outside the tribal jurisdiction, to say nothing of those who live anywhere in the United States.

The change in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s basic form of government is designed to accomplish two goals - extend more input into their government’s decisions to tribal members who live outside Oklahoma and take a major step toward a three-branch government with checks and balances.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation currently has an enrollment of approximately 26,700. About 10,000 of those members live in Oklahoma. Tribal leaders say those members who live away from the tribe’s jurisdiction deserve an opportunity to influence their government’s decisions on enacting laws and writing a budget.

To this point, the CPN has been governed by a five-member Business Committee. The entire Business Committee serves as a legislature. Three of its members -the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary-Treasurer- comprise the Nation’s executive committee. Under provisions of this constitutional revision, all three, along with the other two Business Committee members, will be members of the legislature. Tribal officials plan a subsequent constitutional amendment to move them out of the legislature into a solely administrative branch of the tribal government.

This constitutional revision accomplishes a third goal. It removes the U.S. Interior Secretary’s authority to veto proposed changes in the CPN constitution.

Listen to “The Native American Speaks” online at [www.Potawatomi.org](http://www.Potawatomi.org) or on KGFF-AM (1450) or KOKC-AM (1520) for informative interviews about the CPN and Potawatomis.



## Chef Loretta 'Seasons with Spirit' on PBS television series

Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Loretta Barrett Oden hasn't spent a lot of time in her hometown -Shawnee, Oklahoma- in recent years. However, what she's been up to is available for viewing on TV. Oden, a Shawnee High School graduate, has become perhaps the best-known Native American chef in the nation over the past two decades. She has been featured on national television and in numerous print articles. Recently, she achieved a longtime goal when she completed a five-part series on Native American food.

"Seasoned With Spirit: A Native Cook's Journey" is being broadcast on OETA (Channel 13 in Oklahoma City, Channel 11 in Tulsa), Oklahoma's public television network. The series began airing on Monday, August 13, at 10 p.m. It continued through Monday, September 10.

The five-part PBS (Public Broadcasting Service) series was co-produced by Connecticut Public Television and Native American Public Telecommunications (NAPT) in association with Resolution Pictures. It has already aired on New England public television. In fact, **the show won a regional Emmy** recently in the Informational/Instructional category.

*Seasoned with Spirit* offers viewers "a culinary celebration of America's bounty combining Native American history and culture with delicious, healthy recipes inspired by indigenous foods," according to the NAPT Web site. Each 30-minute episode "is a visually stunning, cultural adventure across the American landscape where viewers meet Native American peoples, see their breathtaking environs, learn their history and traditions, and, best of all, taste their cuisine. Plus, the entire series features a stirring musical score featuring today's top Native American artists."



On the White Earth Reservation in Minnesota, host Loretta Oden and Diane Chilton, an Anishnabe cook, have just prepared a First Rice Harvest Feast with Acorn Squash stuffed with Wild Rice, Buffalo Meat, and Cranberries. Photo credit: Allan Moss.



Renowned Native American Chef and proud woman of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Loretta Barrett Oden hosts the new PBS cooking, travel and Native American culture series *SEASONED WITH SPIRIT*. Here Loretta travels to a buffalo range on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation in South Dakota to learn how they are working to bring the buffalo back to the Great Plains. Photo credit: Allan Moss.

Oden is described as "a renowned Native American chef, food historian and lecturer, and proud woman of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation ...With her infectious humor and unstoppable enthusiasm, Loretta travels around the country to immerse herself in the lives and traditions of numerous Native American tribes. She blends her passion for delectable food and engaging storytelling to create a fascinating series for viewers of all backgrounds ... From simple comfort foods such as Sassafras Shrimp Gumbo, to more exotic dishes as such as Grilled Buffalo Tenderloin topped with Chokecherry Au Jus, *Seasoned with Spirit* presents a culinary palette for every taste, and a taste for every palate."

Producers of the series are Matt Cohen and Renard Cohen, with Oden listed as host and co-creator.

Oden operated the Corn Dance Cafe in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She lived in Tecumseh, Oklahoma in recent years, but has now moved to Oklahoma City.

### Title VI (Elders) Transportation

The program offers meals, dominoes, cable TV, and access to exercise equipment. Each Friday night, the elders enjoy a Country/Western dance with a live band.

Located in FireLake Wellness Center or call 405-878-4833

## New Potawatomi



Jaden Connor Reece

Jaden Connor Reece, the son of Citizen Potawatomi tribal Member TaRena L. (Nail) Reece and her husband, Jason A. Reece was born February the 14, 2007 at 1:11pm. He weighed 8 lbs 1oz and was 21.56 inches long.

Jaden is the first grandchild of tribal member Thomas R. and his Wife Terri L. (McCalip) Nail

CPN Veterans Organization  
WWII Veterans Honor Banquet  
FireLake Grand Casino  
Events Center  
November 10, 2007  
Tickets - \$20 each  
Call 405-878-5830

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Long-Sleeved Denim Shirt  
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Sizes: Small - XXL  
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To order, call 405-275-3119



## New HowNiKan Ad Rates

With the elections to fill 11 new Citizen Potawatomi Nation legislative seats on the horizon, the *HowNiKan* is announcing new ad rates. As has been past practice, as required by the CPN election code, each candidate's first ad will be free.

The size of the free ad will be one-eighth (1/8) page, which is equivalent to 12.5 square inches. With two-column width of 4.9 inches, a landscape-perspective, one-eighth-page ad will be 2.5 inches tall. A one-column-wide, one-eighth-page ad will be 5.25 inches tall.

The new *HowNiKan* ad rate structure is: \$500 for a full-page ad; \$375 for a three-quarter (3/4) page ad; \$250 dollars for a one-half page ad; \$150 for a one-quarter page ad; and \$75 for a one-eighth page ad.

Based on a total of 25 square inches, the sizes for quarter-page ads will be two columns x 5.1 inches and one column x 10.5 inches.

A half-page ad will contain 50 square inches. The landscape perspective ad will be four columns wide x five inches tall. The portrait-perspective ad will be two columns wide by 10.2 inches tall.

With a 75-square-inch size, the three-quarter page, landscape perspective ad will be four columns wide x 7.5 inches tall. The portrait-perspective ad will be three columns (7.5 inches) wide x 10 inches tall.

The full page ad speaks for itself. It is a ten inch x ten inch size, or 100 square inches.

For representations of all these ad sizes go to [www.CPNElectionCentral.org](http://www.CPNElectionCentral.org). Candidate ads, candidate biographies/curriculum vitae, question-and-answer features, and audio/video from a series of meet-the-candidate sessions will also be posted on that Web site.



Shop online for a wide variety of gifts, artwork, beading supplies, etc. at [www.FireLakeGifts.com](http://www.FireLakeGifts.com)



# Letter from the Chairman

Bouzho Nikon (Hello, my friend),

At Last! The new Constitution is finally in effect. After an overwhelming majority voted in favor of it, a protest was filed by Penny Bishop, Sheila Hall, and Diana Brasfield. The BIA ruled their protest was bogus and finally sent us the approval letter putting it into effect. The wasted two months will make the new election period overlap the filing period for Legislator #9 from Oklahoma, but we will be able to amend the election ordinance to accommodate this.

First order of business is the new Legislature. Those of you who wish to file for office in your Legislative District will learn how to do so in this issue, or you can call the tribal office. "Meet the Candidate" meetings will be held in each District of the Nation to give you an opportunity to campaign. These will be held instead of the regular Regional Council Meetings.

If you have experience in government, management, accounting, or other business, please consider this service to your tribe. Our new form of government has never been attempted by any other Indian tribe. The success of this bold attempt at giving more representation to the people who live outside of our reservation area depends on the quality of those who get elected. It will take sound judgment, a spirit of cooperation, and lots of hard work. We have a very large (\$350,000,000) business and government operation. You will be responsible for passing the laws that govern that operation.

If you win your election, the tribe will install a teleconferencing system in an office in your area for your use in serving your District. Initially, we may have to use the internet until the equipment is installed. After the election, you will be flown to tribal headquarters for orientation in the tribal government and to get the organization work started. The rest of the time, you will attend meetings of the tribal legislature over your teleconferencing system. These legislative meetings will also be broadcast over the internet for all of our tribal citizens to see.

It is vital that all of you vote in the new election. We are particularly concerned about the new Legislative Districts #1, and #2. We have not held Regional Council meetings in this area except for Washington D.C. The number of people voting is very low in these areas of the



country. We need your participation, please.

Our businesses are going very well. The new casino is paying off its debt at a fast rate and will soon be able to contribute new money to expand our services. We are working on a new home mortgage program, new medical benefits, and expanded college scholarship assistance. We will soon have some new features added to our burial program. Great things are coming. This is an exciting time to be a Citizen Potawatomi!

Our traditional life took on some wonderful new character recently with the teachings that Don Perrot is doing in the Potawatomi Language department run by Justin Neely. We were honored to be a part of the Horse and Buffalo ceremony, copies of which will be made available to you on request. It is a deeply spiritual experience to be a part of these teachings and hear our language used. These teachings would be lost to us if we did not have this resource in Don Perrot, a fluent Potawatomi speaker and spiritual elder. Megwetch, Neaseno, Igweyen.

It is a great honor to serve you as Tribal Chairman. It is very gratifying to see many of the things we dreamed about years ago now become reality. Please make the tribe a part of your life, it belongs to you.

Megwetch,

Kewehoge  
John Barrett

## Coker earns SBA award



Kristi Coker

**OKLAHOMA CITY** - The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has named Colleen J. Payne-Nabors 2007 Oklahoma Small Business Person of the Year. Nabors is chief executive officer of the MCI Diagnostic Center in Tulsa. She was nominated for the award by the employees of the MCI Diagnostic Center.

Kristi Renee Coker, executive director, Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation, Shawnee; earned the Oklahoma SBA office's Small Business Champion of the Year award.

Coker, Nabors, and the other six state and regional awards winners were recognized during a luncheon on Tuesday, May 22 at Rose State College Student Center in Midwest City. The guest speaker was Clifton L. Taulbert, president and founder of the Building Community Institute in Tulsa.

"Starting and expanding a small business is not an easy endeavor, but it is one that can be very rewarding. SBA is proud to recognize these outstanding 2007 Oklahoma Small Business award winners for their creativity, commitment and community involvement," said Dottie Overall, SBA Oklahoma District Director. "The strength of their work creates growth in their company as well as growth in the economy of the state."

Nabors was named top small business person in the state based on her company's staying power, growth in number of employees, increase in sales, innovativeness of product, and contributions to community-oriented projects.

Coker is the founding executive director of the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation, a U.S. Department of Treasury Certified Community Development Financial Institution. It was chartered by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, headquartered in Shawnee, to provide capital and technical assistance for projects that help create a healthy tribal economy.

Ms. Coker has long recognized the need for training, technical assistance, loans, and financial education to help tribal and aspiring entrepreneurs achieve self-sufficiency. Because of Ms. Coker's dedication, more than \$7 million dollars has been obtained from the federal government and private foundations. It has allowed the CPCDC to provide more loans to Citizen Potawatomi members and members of other Native American nations.

*Leona Agee, con't. from page 6*

she enjoyed painting nature and those things that held fond memories. Her talents were recognized early when she was asked to illustrate her high school annual. Later she was commissioned to paint her old high school and gym and a hill called Spindle Top. She donated those paintings to her home town of Cement as a fund raiser for their museum. If you were a recipient of one of her paintings you were honored and blessed.

Lee was an outstanding athlete - part of that Tomboy mystique. In fact, Lee was much more comfortable in blue jeans and a button shirt than a dress or a frilly blouse. Lee enjoyed every sport she tried. She enjoyed watching, too, especially watching her grandson Eric.

Lee was an excellent basketball player having been selected to the All-State team her senior year. If baseball had been a coed sport, Lee would have been right in there. If you ever played "burn-out" with her, you better wear a catcher's mitt...or you could wear a "shiner" like I did once.

With all the success of high school behind her, Lee set out to see what the world had to offer. You know what happened when Lee set her sites on a goal. Well, she did, and it wasn't long before she had a tall, handsome man head-over-heels in love with her. Lee felt like he was a keeper. Fifty years later, she felt the same and loved him even more. So do we, Les.

After raising her family, Lee became a successful businesswoman. She started out with a convenience store. Later, she and Les owned and operated Radio Shack stores here in Duncan. They sold the stores and retired after several successful years.

She finally got her dream home out in the country overlooking a beautiful lake. Retirement didn't mean she was idle. She was always busy with painting or reading. She read voraciously. There was a hunger there that never could be satisfied. She certainly got me started on several books and series of books.

Lee faced many difficulties throughout her life. Her battle with cancer lasted a long, long time. She showed us a courage that few of us can comprehend. She didn't share her pain but she always had a smile and a laugh to share.

It is said among our people that a person lives as long as she is remembered in the hearts and minds of her loved ones. Carry this thought with you and remember her often.

Aho!  
Ralph Bazhaw  
Lee's Brother



The information below must be contained in an application for filing and must include a sworn affidavit. A copy of the filing form is also available on the internet, at [www.CPNElectionCentral.org](http://www.CPNElectionCentral.org). The filing period opens on Monday, October 29, 2007 and closes at 5 p.m. on Thursday, November 8, 2007. A Ballot Request Period will begin on November 1, 2007 and end on January 10, 2008. There will be in-person voting from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. on February 2, 2008 at the courtroom in the CPN administration building, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801 for all 11 legislative positions to be filled in this election. Candidate filing is by mail only.

APPLICATION FOR FILING  
District Legislator

Name: Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
How long at current residence: \_\_\_\_\_ (Six months is required for legislators from Oklahoma) Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
No. \_\_\_\_\_ Legislative district number for which you are filing. (only one office): \_\_\_\_\_ Roll Number \_\_\_\_\_

A filing fee of one-hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) by guaranteed check (such as cashier's or official bank check) must be received along with your filing and must be payable to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. *A copy of candidate's current driver's license, a copy of a current utility bill, and a copy of the prospective candidate's tribal membership card must also accompany this filing form.*

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

I hereby declare that I am a candidate for the following district legislator number \_\_\_\_\_. In support of the declaration, I submit the affidavit below.

AFFIDAVIT  
Citizen Potawatomi Nation )  
 )  
Indian Country ) SS.

The undersigned, after being duly sworn, does hereby state under oath that: 1. I am a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. 2. My date of birth is: \_\_\_\_\_  
SSN \_\_\_\_\_ 3. My place of birth is: \_\_\_\_\_ 4. I am presently residing and may receive mail at the following address: Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ 5. I have resided at this address immediately above continuously for the past six months. (This applies only to candidates for seats in Oklahoma.) 6. I have never been convicted of a felony. 7. I have never been found civilly or criminally liable for a breach of fiduciary duty to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation or any other Indian Tribe. 8. I have never been impeached or recalled from office by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. 9. (Optional) I hereby specify that the following nickname may be placed on the ballot alongside my true name: \_\_\_\_\_. I affirm that I am known by that nickname, am not using it for any purpose other than accurately identifying myself and that this name is not identical or substantially similar to the name or nickname of another candidate.

Under penalty of perjury, I affirm that the information submitted on this form is true and correct.

FURTHER, AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Candidate's name, typed or printed) (Candidate's Signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

Notary \_\_\_\_\_

My Commission Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this completed form, along with the \$150.00 filing fee and supporting documents, to: CPN Election Committee, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801.